

*William Hellawell
69 Fleet Street
London*

THE

The Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 406.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1853.

[PRICE 6d.]

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By Order of the Board,

GEORGE HOPE, Secretary, p. t.

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Office : No. 113, Fleet-street.

London, August, 1853.

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 406.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1853.

[PRICE 6d.

CONTENTS.

ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS :—	
Ecclesiastical Results of the Session 1852-53 ...	669
Convocation.....	670
A Church-rate Contest since the recent Decision.....	670
Wesleyan Delegate Meeting.....	670
Institution of Invalided Clergymen	670
Religious and Educational 671	
University of London	672
Correspondence	672
Parliamentary Proceedings 672	
Parliamentary Statistics.— Session 1852-53	673
New Acts of Parliament	674
Decimal Coinage.....	674
Foreign and Colonial News 674	
South Australia	676
Postscript	677

POLITICAL :—	
Summary	678
Weekly Parliamentary Notes.....	678
Political Results of the Session	679
The Temple of Janus Closed	679
Legislation by Minutes of Council	679
The Turk, the Greek, and the Slave.....	680
Elections and Election Inquiries	681
The Camp and the Fleet	681
The Accident at the Crystal Palace	682
The Hon. Mr. & Mrs. Norton	682
Accidents and Offences.....	682
Law, Police, and Assize	683
Literature.....	684
Facts and Facetiae	686
Miscellaneous News	686

Ecclesiastical Affairs.

ECCLESIASTICAL RESULTS OF THE SESSION 1852-53.

THE political, equally with the physical world, is pervaded by a law of action and reaction. Public sentiment appears to move in cycles, and on all great questions of unsettled policy there is a tolerably regular ebb and flow of opinion. This has been remarkably the case with regard to our Church Establishment. Twenty years ago we seemed to have approached much nearer to the solution of the State-church question than we are at the present moment. The *Times*, a tolerably correct index of public opinion, declared with emphasis, that we had "too much Church." Earl Grey solemnly warned the bishops to "put their houses in order,"—an admonition which their lordships have observed in a much more literal sense than the noble speaker intended. The abolition of Church Cess in Ireland, the extinction of ten episcopal sees, the famous appropriation clause, and the immense importance attached to a speedy and satisfactory settlement of the Church-rate question in England, attested the strength of popular feeling in favour of ecclesiastical reform; and this attestation was at once illustrated and confirmed by hosts of pamphlets on the subject, some of them from no obscure pens. In short, throughout the first Parliament elected under the Reform Act, the Church of England was at a discount, and many were sanguine enough to believe that her days were numbered.

It was to counteract this too obvious tendency of public sentiment that Tractarianism was originated. Owing to whatever cause, its success has been remarkable. The reaction of opinion which followed may not be wholly due to its influence—not chiefly, perhaps—but it is indisputable, we think, that it had the effect of staying encroachments on the State-church system. It infused into it a principle of vitality capable of resisting the progress of natural decay—and once more that system rallied, and grew into temporary vigour. For about fifteen years the Church has been recovering lost ground. Session after session something has been done to strengthen her defences, to push forward her claims, or to depress her opponents. In her new lease of prosperity, her rulers forgot the causes of her previous weakness. They became at once arrogant and corrupt—challenged for themselves larger spiritual authority, and were guilty of acts which showed that they were utterly unfit even for that measure of it which they enjoy. But it was only slowly that a change in public opinion set

in. Up to the end of last Parliament, it would have been difficult to say with certainty, whether or not the tide which had so long and so steadily flowed, had turned and begun to ebb. The first session of the new Parliament has dispelled all doubt upon this subject. Little as may have been actually accomplished—narrow as is the strip of land which has been recovered from the waters—it is quite clear that what was a year or two since advancing, is now receding, and that the current of opinion is now adverse to the Established Church.

To estimate aright the ecclesiastical results of the session just closed, it is necessary to bear in mind the general tendency of affairs during the last fifteen years. Throughout that period, anti-state-church professions, in Parliament at least, have been very rarely ventured, and very commonly scouted. The Church of England, with few exceptions, had its own way—both Government and Legislature having been triumphantly bishop-ridden. To Mr. Horsman and Sir Benjamin Hall we owe it, that the Commons, towards the end of the last Parliament, grew somewhat impatient of the ignoble yoke—and to the persevering labours of the British Anti-state-church Association, backed by the course of events, is to be attributed, we think, the fact that several constituent bodies, sympathizing with the new turn of feeling, returned members to the present House of Commons, boldly avowing their Dissent, and their hostility to State Establishments of religion, as such. The negative consequences of this fact may be seen in the totally altered tone in which advanced opinions on ecclesiastical questions are now received in the House of Commons. The sneer of contempt has been exchanged for the silence of respect. Voluntaryism is admitted to have something worth consideration to urge in its own favour—and it is very generally felt that the next great trial of the State Church—a trial which every one believes to be near at hand—will be a trial, not, as formerly, of its abuses of administration, but of the very principles on which the system rests.

This changed, and still changing, tone of sentiment in the House of Commons, may be referred to, perhaps, as the most important ecclesiastical result of the late session, and should be appreciated, not so much by what it has already done, as by what it fairly promises and tends to do. A few illustrations of its working will give a more correct idea of the character of the session, regarded ecclesiastically, than any enumeration of measures, however full and accurate.

Two or three decisive indications have appeared, and that, too, in very unexpected quarters, of the existence and growth of sounder views than have generally obtained in Parliament of late, on the nature and tenure of Church property. Mr. Gladstone, the Marquis of Blandford, and Dr. Phillimore, all three representative of the High Church party, have severally made propositions involving the conclusion that Church property belongs to, and may be freely dealt with by, the British public. When the Chancellor of the Exchequer declined to bring the clergy under the operation of the Succession Duties Bill, on the ground that their revenues are not of the nature of absolute estates, but merely a mode of public payment for duties performed—when the Marquis of Blandford proposed to vest all Cathedral and Capitular Estates in the hands of a permanent Commission, with a view to improved management, and a more useful distribution of their proceeds—and when Dr. Phillimore contended for an extension of the law of Queen

Anne against Simony to the laity as well as the clergy of the Church Establishment—each aimed a deadly blow at the doctrine of Sir Robert Inglis, so widely adopted by the clerical class, that Church funds belong to the functionaries who enjoy them, as absolutely as a private estate to its legal proprietor. The Legislature in the first, the House of Commons in the second, of these illustrations, have sanctioned the principle as a sound one—no unimportant gain, in our judgment, upon previous ecclesiastical assumptions—one the full value of which will be felt when the country shall take the question of a State Church fairly in hand for settlement.

We have another illustration of the altered tone of ecclesiastical feeling in the House of Commons, in the defeat and withdrawal of measures either obnoxious on account of an objectionable principle involved, or unsatisfactory as embodying an unworthy compromise. The Missionary Bishops Bill, although a darling of the Episcopal bench, and the Colonial Churches Regulation Bill, although sustained in the House of Lords by the Duke of Newcastle, and espoused in both Houses by the Peelite section, were rejected by the Commons after very brief discussion, and without the smallest ceremony. The Edinburgh and Canongate Annuity Tax Abolition Bill, and the Ministers' Money (Ireland) Abolition Bill, abatements, or rather, re-enactments in disguise, of powers and privileges deemed essentially vicious, provoked a force of opposition, chiefly on account of their shortcomings, which proved fatal to them. In any previous session they would probably have passed almost *sub silentio*. Now, such trumpery pretensions to reform are obliged to sustain the ordeal of a searching investigation.

Nor has the improved tone of feeling in regard to Church matters been much less conspicuous in unsuccessful attempts at liberal legislation than in such as have been happily carried to completion. Both the proposed modes of terminating Church-rate strife submitted to the Commons, each of which received a gratifying amount of support, were indicative of vast improvement in relation to the House's views of religious liberty—and the double division on the question showed a striking advance towards a better state of ecclesiastical sentiment. Even the debate on the Irish Church, although originated by parties whose ulterior objects were uncertain, brought out a distinct enunciation of thorough Anti-state-church principles, and begat hopes of a far better result under happier auspices. Whilst, unquestionably, in the two nights' discussion, in committee, of the Civil Service Estimates, the objection to all application of public money for religious purposes was urged with a pertinacity and an earnestness which produced a deep impression, and was met in a tone of apology betokening that the day for the repetition of these ecclesiastical jobs is gone by for ever. The evil, which really began to assume an alarming aspect, has been virtually extinguished. Further grants of this nature we take to be impossible.

On some questions, and those not unimportant, the House of Commons has done justice to the broadest principles of ecclesiastical freedom. We refer not to the Jew Bill as a felicitous illustration, albeit carried through all its stages by large majorities, nor to the Scottish Universities' Tests Bill, although finally passed into law—for each of these measures, just and generous enough in conception, was spoiled by the jealous and timid character of their practical provisions. But the Burials (beyond the metropolis) Bill, compared with the measure brought down from the Lords,

is a truly useful measure—and the improvement introduced into it by Nonconforming zeal and pertinacity proves how much may be done by firm but unostentatious fidelity. But the great triumph of the session is the Clergy Reserves (Canada) Bill, which, on the sufficient plea of justice to our colonies, surrenders the very principle of State establishments of religion. The manner in which the Government were seduced into an intended compromise on this question, and the undignified retreat into which they were afterwards scared by the unflinching attitude of the Radicals, gave the country a vivid illustration both of the force yet remaining to be conquered, and of the possibility of overcoming it. One such victory as that obtained on this subject was sufficient to give ecclesiastical celebrity to the session.

On the whole, then, we think, the country may be fairly congratulated on the commencement of a better and more liberal era in regard to Church affairs. A new policy has been initiated. A sounder feeling has been elicited and developed. Hope in the future has some soil in which to root itself. The darkest hour has passed. Streaks of dawn begin to show themselves. We have but to continue steadfast, and the reward of our efforts is certain. Let us hope that Dissenting indifference will be dispelled, and Dissenting despair proved to be utterly unreasonable, by the ecclesiastical results of the session of 1852-53.

CONVOCATION.

The Convocation of the Clergy was prorogued in February last to the 18th of August. On Thursday, accordingly, nineteen members of the lower House met in the Jerusalem Chamber, between 10 and 11 o'clock, the customary time of commencing sittings. But the Archbishop came not; neither did Dr. Peacock, the Prolocutor. Instead thereof, the Rev. Canon Wordsworth entered the Chamber, and made an unofficial explanation. Dr. Peacock was staying at his house; he could not attend the meeting because the Archbishop was not there to constitute a House of Convocation. Dr. Peacock had on the 17th sent a request to Mr. Dyke, the Registrar, that he would name the hour of meeting. A verbal message stated that Mr. Dyke was not in town; but, from a private letter addressed by Mr. Dyke to the Abbey porter, they learned that the Archbishop would not be there until three o'clock. Considering this a want of courtesy, the rev. gentlemen went in a body, on the invitation of Dr. Wordsworth, to call on the Prolocutor.

At three o'clock these gentlemen again met in the Jerusalem Chamber; and soon after, the Archbishop of Canterbury appeared with his functionaries. Dr. Peacock, in the name of the members of the lower House there assembled, respectfully represented to his Grace, that no intimation had been given to him, as Prolocutor, nor to the members of Convocation generally, that the proceedings would not commence at the usual hour; and he prayed that such orders might be given as may prevent a similar occurrence in future.

The Archbishop said, he thought that, at the time of the last adjournment, it was so fully understood the present meeting would be only for the purpose of prorogation, that there could not possibly have been any misunderstanding on the subject. He was not aware that there had been any expectation that business would be transacted; and he thought that was sufficiently evidenced by the fact that no members of the upper House were now present. He must, however, express his regret that any misunderstanding had occurred which might have subjected some of the clergy present to inconvenience.

The usual writ was read by Mr. Dyke, and Convocation stood prorogued until the 10th November. No hour was mentioned.

The *Times* of Monday is requested to state, that the day to which Convocation has been prorogued is Saturday, the 10th of September, and not Saturday, the 10th of November. On the 10th of September Convocation will be further prorogued to Friday, the 28th of October.

A CHURCH-RATE CONTEST SINCE THE RECENT DECISION.

There has been a vigorous church-rate contest at Kettering. Notice was given of a vestry meeting, but it was posted only on the church doors. So secretly was the matter gone about, says the *Leicester Mercury*, that the Dissenters knew nothing of it until Friday, the 12th instant. A few of them immediately issued a hand-bill apprising the inhabitants of the fact. A meeting was convened by circular the same evening of the leading Dissenters in the town, to consider the most effectual steps to resist the measure; a committee was chosen to conduct the opposition; and a guarantee fund subscribed on the spot to cover all expenses in opposing the rate. On Saturday, the 13th instant, the news arrived of the decision of the House of Lords in the Braintree church-rate case. This greatly strengthened the hands of the opponents of the rate, and decided many who hitherto thought it useless to oppose the rate, if a minority could by law enforce it. On Monday, the 15th instant, there was a crowded vestry meeting. The rector took the chair. The Dissenters proposed one of their number for vestry clerk, which was unanimously agreed to. The chairman then

called upon the churchwardens to produce their estimates: these stated that the repairs necessary to be done to the roof of the church, &c., were very considerable, and would require a sum of £316. It was proposed, and seconded, that a rate of ninepence in the pound be granted. This large rate was evidently laid to entrap Dissenters, and to get some of them to propose an amendment for a less rate, as an architect present stated that he had inspected the roof, "and it could be done for half the money." The rector repeatedly called for an amendment for a less rate, but the Dissenters took care not to be entrapped, while they uttered many wholesome truths, which Churchmen would be all the better for hearing. They proposed no amendment. A show of hands was called for the ninepenny rate, which received about twelve supporters: the contrary being put, a perfect forest of hands was held up, not less than three or four hundred. The rate being lost, the churchwardens demanded a poll. This was granted, and polling fixed for the following day. The same evening a public meeting was held in the Baptist Chapel, and addressed in stirring speeches by the Rev. T. Toller the Rev. James Mursell, and several other gentlemen, against the proposed measure, and all connexion of Church and State. The polling commenced on Tuesday morning, at 9 o'clock, with great spirit, those opposing the rate taking the lead, and keeping it to the close, when the numbers stood—*Against* the rate, 321; *for* the rate, 126. Majority *against* the rate, 195. The cottage occupiers all voted, as formerly, under the protest of the churchwardens: 173 of them voted against the rate, and nine for it, leaving a majority of unquestioned votes against the rate, 31, and, it is hoped, putting a stop for ever to church-rates in Kettering. The same evening a large meeting was held in the Baptist Chapel, and addressed by the same gentlemen who had spoken the night before. The spirit of the meeting showed clearly that it would be difficult again to impose church-rates in Kettering.

WESLEYAN DELEGATE MEETING.

The Wesleyan delegates commenced their fifth annual assembly at Bradford, on the 12th inst., in the New Connexion Chapel, which was well filled on the occasion by delegates, of whom there were nearly 300 present. W. Gandy, Esq., of Bradford, presided. The Report of the general committee for the past year was then presented and read by Mr. Moxon.

It stated that, although the committee could not state that the Conference was at present disposed to meet the Reformers and arrange the matters in dispute between them, it was evident that the position and prospects of the Conference had been seriously affected by the continued agitation, and that, ere long, it must yield its present position, or become a thing of the past. The committee had divided the country into districts, and appointed an agent to labour in each district on alternate months, leaving it with the district committees to make the necessary arrangements for the labours of the agents. Fresh ground had been broken up in many places, and returns had this year been received of new societies being established in London, Kent, Oxford, Portsmouth, Bath, Manchester, and Sheffield districts. The returns, so far as they had been received, show an increase on the returns of last year of 1,143 members. Reform societies had been established in 205 circuits in Great Britain, but there were 252 circuits in which there was, as yet, no organization for the purpose of Reform, and which present a vast field for the labours of the Reform agents. The committee had prepared three editions of a new hymn book. The committee had secured seven hymns by the late Rev. Charles Wesley, never before published. No pains had been spared to render these editions the most complete and the best Wesleyan hymn books extant. On the whole, the committee looked with satisfaction at the rapid spread of the principles of Wesleyan Reform. The committee report that the diminution in the number of Conference adherents still continues, notwithstanding that the preachers have, for the present, almost ceased to exercise the arbitrary power they possess of expelling members who hold views contrary to their assumptions. The decrease of members during the past year is understood to be 10,298, making a total of 87,312 since the commencement of the struggle, or nearly one-fourth of the members reported at the Conference in 1850. Finally, the committee, seeing on all sides encouraging tokens, recommends an onward and vigorous course of action.

Friday and Saturday were occupied in a great measure on the controverted point whether an amalgamation with one of the other Reformed Methodist bodies was not desirable. The general opinion was adverse to this idea, and ultimately the following resolution was passed:—

That this meeting desires to record its devout acknowledgment and gratitude to Almighty God for the great success which has attended the Reform movement during the last four years; and, as the Methodist Conference continues corrupt and unscriptural in its principles and practices, it affirms its resolution to prosecute the Reform movement with additional energy; and, as there are still more than 200 circuits where no Reform organization has been effected, this meeting pledges itself, in the coming year, to employ a sufficient number of agents to hold Reform meetings in every Conference circuit, where no separate services have been established.

In the afternoon (Alderman Scholefield in the chair), a resolution was passed, to the effect that special and vigorous efforts should be made for Ireland, and that a similar effort, if practicable, be made for Canada. An interesting and important discussion then took place on the subject of the finances, and the following resolution was ultimately carried:—

That this meeting pledges itself to raise a sum of at least £5,000 per annum (for ten years, if necessary), towards which the circuits are desired to contribute a moiety; the remainder to be raised by special subscriptions: and that subscriptions be now entered upon.

Immediate action was taken in support of the resolution, and the donations sent in amounted to between £800 and £900. Some of the donations were guaranteed for several years.

On Tuesday morning, the delegates were occupied

for a length of time in considering the subject of reform agencies and local reform organization. The Conference separated at nearly 12 o'clock, having resolved to meet next year at Birmingham.

On Monday evening, a large meeting of the friends of the movement was held in the Temperance Hall, which was crowded in every part. W. H. C. Hardy, Esq., of Letheringsett Hall, Norfolk, presided, and was supported by several expelled Wesleyan ministers and a large number of delegates.

On Tuesday afternoon a numerously-attended meeting was held in the Cloth Hall, Leeds, convened by large placards proclaiming "war with Anti-Christ," W. Harrison, Esq., of Wakefield, presided. The Secretary read two letters, one from Mr. Miall, M.P., the other from Mr. Bramwell, Mayor of Durham, expressing their sorrow at not being able to attend, and their deep sympathy with the object of the meeting. The Rev. William Griffith moved the first resolution:—

That the principles of Church government and discipline now put forth by the Conference, and the proceedings which have dignified its history during the last four years, are, in the judgment of this meeting, utterly opposed to the word of God, and destructive of civil and religious liberty.

Mr. Griffith said they were met that day to let the world know they were determined to maintain their rights. Those rights had been trampled upon by the Wesleyan Conference. To say a word on the evil so prominent—the tyrannical power of the Conference. He would ask, who make the laws?—the preachers; who interpret the laws?—the preachers; who inflict the penalties?—the preachers; who carry into effect the laws, when it shall seem right to inflict them?—the preachers; and to whom are you to make your complaint when treated unjustly?—why, to the same parties, the preachers [applause]. It is the preachers at the top, and the preachers at the bottom. They collect the money, they fix their own salaries, and we must not be so impudent as to ask how they spend it, every year, self-proposed and self-elected, with closed doors, locked gates, and guarded by police, with the press excluded, meeting to will and to do their own good pleasure, disregarding the liberties of the people, framing laws for their own purposes, and expelling whomsoever they saw fit. 100,000 members had left the Conference party, either expelled or disgusted with the proceedings. They (the Reformers) quarrelled not with the people, they were one with them, but they quarrelled with the Conference tyranny. William Martin, Esq., of Manchester, made a telling speech. The Rev. J. Everett moved the second resolution:—

After hearing the statements now made, this meeting is of opinion that truth and justice imperatively demand a Reformation in the Wesleyan Conference, and that this meeting now resolves to use all lawful means in order to effect such Reformation.

He stated that on the previous night, before the delegates broke up, no less than £900 were raised in twenty to thirty minutes, to carry on the movement to effect this Reformation. He concluded by urging them all to be of one heart, and of one mind, and ere long they would be victorious. The Rev. T. Rowland seconded the resolution. The meeting separated at twenty minutes to six.

INSTITUTION OF INVALIDED CLERGYMEN.

Mr. S. G. Osborne notifies, through the *Times*, that he has received a copy of a letter from Mr. Barnes, legal adviser to the Bishop of Exeter, addressed to his lordship, and relating to the institution of an aged and paralytic clergyman to the living of St. Ervan—an exposure of which was lately made by the indefatigable S. G. O. Mr. Barnes admits the substantial facts of the case, and expresses a hope that its disclosure will cause the cessation of the practice. But on what grounds do the public suppose Mr. Barnes defends his client for having allowed institution?

In the early days of the episcopate of Dr. Phillpotts, a very aged clergyman, deaf and of great bodily infirmity, was presented to a benefice for the purpose of enabling the patron to sell the advowson to the highest advantage. The bishop at first refused to institute. On consulting high authority, he was informed there was fear whether his refusal could be sustained in law. He does not tell us whether this superannuated cripple went through the farce for which his holy services had been purchased; but we are certainly left to the conclusion that he did, and that the bishop, in his next charge to the clergy, expressed his indignation at the circumstance. Mr. Barnes now tells us that the Gorham case cost the bishop £3,000; and, therefore, unsuccessfully as that sum had been spent, he (the bishop) could hardly have been expected to incur fresh expense by litigating with the patron in the St. Ervan case.

I know quite enough (continues Mr. Osborne) of the reputation of Mr. Barnes for all the qualities required in one who acts as legal aide-de-camp, even to such a bishop as Dr. Phillpotts, to satisfy me that he knows as well as I do, that a writ of *quare impedit* in the St. Ervan case would have been as mere waste paper against the justification he and his client could have put in. . . . The law I still assert, upon good grounds, is that the bishop has full liberty to refuse an incompetent presented. I do not think so gross a case as that either of Spetsbury or St. Ervan will again happen; but I here assure Mr. Barnes and every other bishop's secretary in the kingdom, should they find themselves in any similar predicament, that I will myself, on the case being put into the legal hands I will name, lodge security for all expenses, and take care that the question is fully and fairly contended.

With some ability, considerable cunning, and not a little courage, the bench conspired to give episcopal and priestly power a vigorous impulse in the colonies. They must have known that in the House of Commons the move would meet exposure and receive its *quietus*. Why not have brought in a short declaratory act to strengthen their hands at home against these worse than simoniacal cases?

Is there a lower idea to be formed of human nature than that which gives us men, ordained as holy ministers of the gospel, who, for a brief enjoyment of a

little more income, take their bodily weaknesses, their age, their near expectation of death, into the market? I can form one lower idea. It is that of those who lend themselves to seal the contract, for fear of money costs, or private animosity, and who yet, having the opportunity to prevent this pollution of our Church at its very heart, have been content to toy with such matters as the restoration of poor defunct Convocation, or the infliction on the colonies of a spiritual burden they would soon reject.

A PROTESTANT CONFERENCE is to meet this week at Hamburg. About twenty of the leading Protestants, from all parts of Europe, are to assemble for the purpose of taking into consideration the present position of Evangelical Protestantism on the Continent, and adopting those measures which may be deemed best adapted to promote its principles. The Conference will last three days. Among our countrymen who intend to be present, will be Lord Shaftesbury, Sir Culling Eardley, and Mr. John M'Gregor.

VOLUNTARYISM FOR IRELAND.—Mr. G. T. Hayden, of Dublin, has lately been writing a series of letters in the papers entitled, "Remedies for Ireland." The seventh and eighth of these letters strongly advocate Voluntaryism or self-support as applied to every religious sect, and recommends that the pulpit, the press, public meetings, Members of Parliament, and petitions, should be vigorously used to bring out public opinion in favour of the separation of Church and State. The following form of petition recommended by Mr. Hayden embodies his plan:—

DRAFT OF PETITION TO BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT,
&c., &c., &c.

MOST HUMBLY SHEWETH.—That Sectarian strife has ever been the bane of Ireland—"the chief cause of her defeats and degradations"—consequently, our country has met the fate of "a house divided against itself."

That we are decidedly of opinion that it is the duty of a paternal government—while protecting all denominations of Christians, in the exercise of civil and religious liberty—to discharge the blessed office of peacemaker, by removing as much as possible any just grounds of jealousy or hatred between contending sects.

That the connexion between Church and State, and the compulsory payment of the clergy—even supposing that the whole population of the country were exclusively Protestant—is a condition which, while it humiliates by "hiring the ministry," at the same time deprives the church of that liberty which God himself made her birth-right.

That the great grievance and obvious injustice which we all seek relief from is this:—That a majority of the population—Roman Catholics and Dissenters—are compelled to pay, by Tithes and Ministers' Money, for the support of a church of whose services their inclination, tenets, and conscience do not permit them to avail themselves! /

1st, Asylums for the Aged and Infirm;
2nd, Hospitals where most required;
3rd, Parochial Industrial Schools on the most improved principles, and confined exclusively to Industrial objects.

And petitioners will ever pray.

AN INTOLERANT PRIEST REBUKED.—A correspondent at Chiddingly, Hurstgreen, Sussex, sends us the following interesting narrative:—"Trinity church in this village was consecrated in 1845. About that time a school was formed by subscription in the neighbourhood, and although originating with Dissenters, was formed on the most liberal basis, entirely free from all sectarianism. The first incumbent was, happily, a most amiable man, of liberal sentiments, and entered nobly into the arrangements of the committee, and was a decided and generous friend to the school. Thus things went on well till he (the Rev. Mr. Vidal) was made colonial bishop of Sierra Leone, in the autumn of last year. His successor was a Mr. Cooper. During the incumbency of Mr. Vidal, at his own expense, he gave an annual treat to the children, to which they were invited without distinction. This year his rev. successor restricted his liberality to the minority of the scholars—namely, to those only who attended church. The favoured ones of course twitted their less fortunate schoolmates. The rejected children went crying to their parents, entreating their permission to go to church at least for one Sunday, that they might obtain a passport to the treat. This the parents very properly refused them; and to their credit be it spoken, indignantly rejected the clerical proviso, which was, that if any of the viands of the treat remained, the nonconforming young culprits were to share it between them. This was too much. Their parents, with the assistance of a few liberal friends, raised the means to give a good treat to the whole school. This being made known, the friends of liberty, from Lewes and elsewhere, assembled on the day of the treat (28th ult.), to the number of 400, in a commodious booth erected for the purpose, when, after tea, the children were addressed by neighbouring Dissenting minister in a very effective speech, free from recrimination. The children perambulated the adjoining green, in procession, headed by a flag, inscribed 'No partiality.' When returning to the booth, they gave three cheers for the minister who addressed them—three for Bishop Vidal, and three for the friends that surrounded them. Several hymns were sung. The greatest harmony prevailed."

CHURCH-RATES AT SITTINGBOURNE, KENT.—On Monday, the Rev. John Moss, Congregational minister, Mr. Richard Whibley, draper, and Mr. Joseph Marsh, corn-factor, were summoned before the Rev.

Mr. Poore, D.D., the Rev. George Bridges Moore, and others, to answer the complaint of the churchwardens for non-payment of two church-rates. The defendants did not appear, but allowed judgment to go by default. The bench decided that the claim for last year's rate was invalid, as more than six months had intervened between the application for the rate and the granting of the summons. They, however, issued distress warrants against Messrs. Moss and Whibley for the last rate, but quashed the summons against Mr. Marsh on the ground that he being a member of the Society of Friends, was not summoned in proper form. It is expected that another summons will be granted for Mr. Marsh, as well as for several other defaulters, who have refused payment of this year's rate, and are determined to suffer distraint rather than submit to these unrighteous exactions. A letter explaining his reasons for not paying the rate was sent by Mr. Moss to the magistrates. It has been printed and circulated in the neighbourhood.

A DISTRESSED BISHOP.—The *Globe*, sympathizing with the distressed Bishop of Durham, says it has been informed, on the unimpeachable authority of a friend and apologist of Dr. Maltby, that, after paying the expenses of his two establishments, and meeting the claims of charity, the Bishop of Durham has *not more than £7,000 a-year* left him for his private expenditure!

OPENING OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE ON SUNDAY.—Huddersfield has had a public meeting on this subject, called to petition Parliament for the removal of all legal restrictions on the Sabbath. A resolution in this sense, and declaring "That this meeting is of opinion that the opening during the Sunday of such sources of innocent and useful recreation as the Crystal Palace at Sydenham will tend to advance the interests of religion, morality, and social progress," was, after considerable discussion, carried by a small majority.

THE REV. W. T. ALLIES.—This gentleman, well known to our readers as a former incumbent of Launceston, is now engaged as secretary to the "Catholic Poor School Committee."—*Bucks Advertiser*.

Religious and Educational Intelligence.

PROPOSED MISSION TO VICTORIA (PORT PHILLIP).—We lately stated that the Revs. Richard Fletcher and J. L. Poore, of Manchester, had consented to go out to Victoria, as the representatives of the Colonial Missionary Society. The Rev. T. James, Secretary of the society, in a letter to a contemporary, says:—

It is a great satisfaction to the committee to know, that the movement has met with the cordial and universal approval of the friends of the society. Even in Manchester itself, where their worth is known, and where their loss will be severely felt, the measure is approved. Since the matter has been decided—indeed, within the last few days—a deeply interesting letter, of a recent date, has been received from the Rev. A. Morison, of Melbourne, describing the state of things in that city and the neighbouring towns, which most strikingly demonstrates the necessity for some such measure as the one in question. A wide and effectual door of usefulness is presented, which, it is highly gratifying to the committee, our brethren will be prepared to enter.

It is intended to send two other ministers with them, for whom stations of great promise will immediately be found. The following extracts from a letter I have recently received from a relative of my own, resident in Melbourne, dated May 17, will be read with interest, and will show the prospect before our brethren:—"The want of ministers is very urgent. The population, increasing with unexampled rapidity (we have had between 4,000 and 5,000 added within the last ten days), demands that the means of religious worship should be multiplied on every hand. Added to which, the novel state of society here requires the active and vigorous diffusion of religious truth. . . . It is sad to observe how many who maintained a respectable standing in the church at home, here almost entirely lay aside their profession. There are many townships where chapels would be erected if pastors could be obtained. At New Brighton, at St. Kilda—where our merchants seek relaxation from business in their villas—we have nobody. Flemington, Collingwood (in this place Mr. Landells, late of Sheffield, is labouring with encouraging prospects), and others, besides many of the gold-fields, are utterly destitute."

SUNDERLAND.—The Rev. A. A. Rees, and other Dissenting ministers, have commenced preaching on Sunday afternoons on the Town Moor.

AMBLE.—The Rev. W. Knox, of Haydon-bridge, has accepted a unanimous invitation to become the pastor of the Independent church and congregation.

WESTBOURNE-GROVE DAY AND SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.—The schools in connexion with the new Baptist church under the pastoral care of the Rev. W. G. Lewis, were opened on the 1st of July last, on the Voluntary principle; and the committee have already secured the regular attendance of more than 300 children, which has rendered it a self-supporting institution. The teachers and children, to the extent of about 400 persons, including many members of the church and congregation, were very hospitably entertained, on Monday week, in the commodious grounds of Mr. Peter Broad, at Shepherd's Bush.

BAPTIST CHAPEL, LEFEVRE-TERRACE, NORTH ADELAIDE.—The third anniversary of the opening of this chapel was held on Sunday, the 24th April, when sermons were preached by the Rev. Messrs. Gardner, Buttfield, and Hull. The sum of £32 was collected towards the liquidation of the chapel debt. A public meeting was held on Monday evening in aid of the same object. This assemblage was addressed by the Revs. Messrs. Draper, Watt, and Stonehouse, also by Dr. Bompas; Joseph Hall, Esq., occupying the chair in the absence of William Peacock, Esq., M.L.C., who was unavoidably prevented, but sent a substantial apology in the shape of a £5 note. James Cumming

Esq., the treasurer, stated, that previous to this anniversary the debt was £250, which had been reduced to £205, and the result was, that in a short period the whole amount required was provided for, partly in cash paid down, and partly in engagements to pay specified sums during the next twelve months. Among these was included a liberal engagement, made some time ago by G. F. Angas, Esq., M.L.C., to pay the last £30 of the debt. An additional subscription, with the new object of including the cost of the chapel premises, was then liberally started by Mr. E. S. Wigg, and in a few minutes, through the exertions of several ladies and other friends, had reached a sum which will go far towards effecting the purpose.—*Adelaide Observer*.

CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF EASTERN CANADA.—The fourteenth annual assembly of this Union was held in this city (says the *Montreal Witness*) last week. The plan which has been under consideration for a year, having in view the bringing together of the two Unions of Eastern and Western Canada, and the uniting of their respective Missionary Societies, was cordially adopted. It had been previously adopted by the Union in the West, at its annual assembly in Toronto, last month, subject to a contingency which will terminate on the 1st of October next. It is probable, therefore, that "The Congregational Union of Canada," the name of the amalgamated body, will meet in this city for the first time next June. The following resolutions of public interest were unanimously adopted by the Union last week:—

That this Union strongly condemns the attempts which have recently been made in Quebec and Montreal to invade the right of public discussion and liberty of speech; and while it takes this opportunity of emphatically affirming that right, it respectfully counsels the churches to maintain, with jealous watchfulness, this and every element of civil and religious liberty, secured to us by the struggles and sufferings of our fathers.

That this Union rejoices to learn that the just and moderate measure introduced into the Legislature during the last session, for exempting the employees of the Post Office Department, and on the Canals, from Sabbath labour, was so well sustained by numerous petitions, and by the votes of the members of the House of Assembly; and would earnestly recommend the Congregationalists of Canada East to renew their petitions until this object be attained.

That inasmuch as the Imperial Legislature has remitted the disposition of the Clergy Reserves to the Legislature of Canada, and inasmuch as this vexed question is likely to come up prominently for final adjustment; therefore, this Union takes the opportunity of solemnly re-affirming its previous testimony, that the Voluntary principle is the law of Christ for the sustentation of the Christian ministry; and that these Reserves will, as long as they are in any way divided among religious denominations, continue to be a prolific source of contention and confusion, and an element of political strife and national weakness; and, therefore, that these Reserves ought to be immediately and entirely secularized, regard being of course had to any existing vested rights of present incumbents.

HUNDON CHAPEL.—A short time since the anniversary sermons on behalf of the Sunday-school were preached by the Rev. James Jenkins, of Stansfield; and on Thursday last, the children received their annual treat of a tea and rewards, consisting of Bibles, hymn books, &c.; after which about seventy persons, members of the church and congregation, and other friends, took tea together. In the evening there was a public meeting in the chapel, at which about 250 persons attended, when very interesting addresses were delivered by the Revs. H. Coleman (Wickham-brook), J. Rutter (Denston), J. Jenkins (Stansfield), and others. The prospects of this cause are promising, quite beyond the expectation of its friends. The religious services—which are, and have been for some time past, conducted by lay agency—are well attended, and all that is wanted to keep up the cause is a resident pastor. Any zealous devoted servant of Christ, who could afford to labour in the work without regard to the amount of pecuniary remuneration, would find this a very desirable sphere.—*From a Correspondent*.

THE REV. BREWIN GRANT, B.A.—This popular lecturer was at Bingley on Monday and Tuesday evenings, August 15th and 16th, addressing crowded audiences in the Odd Fellows' Hall, under the presidency of the Rev. J. Cheadle, M.A., vicar of Bingley, and the Rev. W. Orgar, Independent minister. The subjects on which Mr. Grant lectured were—"Mr. R. Cooper's perversions of Scripture Facts and Doctrines," and "The Real Aims of the Secularists." Both lectures were treated in a masterly manner, presenting a comprehensive and conclusive argument against that masked form of infidelity—Secularism; and the effect produced on the great majority of those present by Mr. Grant's withering exposure of the secular system was most intense. At the close of each lecture objections were invited, but only one person, a working man from Keighley, accepted the invitation; and Mr. Grant proposed that he should be allowed to speak half an hour, if he wished it. Various objections were urged, to which the rev. lecturer replied with readiness and satisfaction, repeating the assertion, that he had not brought a single charge against the advocates or sentiments of Secularism which he was not prepared to substantiate.

THE REV. J. WHITBY, for nearly twenty-two years the minister and pastor of the church and congregation assembling in the Independent Chapel, Nicholas-street, Ipswich, has resigned his charge and ministry in that place, and accepted a unanimous invitation to take the oversight of the church worshipping in the Burrows Chapel, Swansea, in Glamorganshire. Mr. Whitby preached his valedictory sermon to the people of his former charge on Sabbath evening, the 14th inst., and expects to commence in his new sphere of labour on the 28th of the present month.

INDEPENDENT CHAPEL, THAME, OXON.—This chapel, which had been closed for three months, while undergoing extensive enlargement and improvements, was re-opened on Sunday, August 14, when two sermons were preached, that in the morning by the venerable Rev. Peter Tyler, of Haddenham, and that in the evening by the Rev. John Elrick, M.A., the pastor of the church. On the following Monday, the

anniversary services of the chapel were held, when two appropriate sermons were preached by the Rev. Samuel W. Kilpin, of Reading. The attendance on all the services was encouraging and excellent, and the collections liberal. At the close of the afternoon service on Monday, a tea party was held in a beautiful orchard near to the chapel, when a large number of friends partook of an excellent tea. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. H. Baker, of Summer Town, Rev. G. W. Brown, and the Rev. J. Elrick, A.M. From a statement made by the pastor, it appears that since the debt on the chapel of £400 had been paid in March last, a new gallery has been erected, the vestry enlarged—so as to accommodate a much larger number of children connected with the Sunday school, which is rapidly increasing—the chapel painted, and several necessary alterations made to render the congregation more comfortable.

PONTYPOOL.—On Wednesday, July 27, Mr. Wm. Lloyd was ordained to the pastoral office in connexion with the church and congregation assembling at Providence Chapel, Pontypool. The Rev. John Barfield, of Newport, delivered the introductory discourse; the Rev. Evan Rowland, of Pontypool, asked the questions; the Rev. Thomas Loader, of Monmouth, offered the ordination prayer; and the Rev. H. J. Bunn, of Abergavenny, gave the charge. The sermon to the people was preached in the evening by the Rev. T. Gillman, of Newport.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—On Tuesday evening, Aug. 2nd, a meeting was held at the Congregational church, Tunbridge Wells, in connexion with the effort, now brought to a successful issue, to remove the debt. The chair was taken by the Rev. W. P. Lyon, who gave a brief account of the progress of the effort. The meeting was then addressed by the Rev. Messrs. Home, of Tunbridge; John Stent, of Hastings; John Alexander, of Norwich; B. Flight, the former pastor of the church; George Jones, of Tunbridge Wells; and Josiah Conder, Esq. It appears that, three years ago, the debt resting on this place of worship was £1,000. By the beginning of the present year it had been reduced to £700. A kind friend then offered £100, on condition that the remaining £600 were raised by the end of June. The appeal was warmly responded to. Sums of various amounts were promised by friends interested in the prosperity of the cause; and, after the very liberal collections made at the last anniversary—when the services were conducted by the Rev. James Stratten, of Paddington, and the Rev. Thomas Binney, of the Weigh-house—it was found that the entire amount had been raised.

THE REV. HENRY HOOPER, late of Lancashire Independent College, has accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation from the church of Christ assembling in Hampden Chapel, Hackney, to become their pastor; and entered on his stated labours last Sabbath.

WEEKLY TRACT SOCIETY.—Mr. Rowland Elliott, who, for upwards of nine years, held an appointment in the corresponding department of the National Provincial Bank of England, has recently been appointed corresponding secretary to the above institution.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

M.B. FIRST EXAMINATION, 1853

HONOURS.

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY.

Brown, T. E. B.	{ Exhibition and Gold Medal }	Guy's Hospital.
Edwards, St. J. (Gold Medal)	..	University College.
Williams, Clement	Guy's Hospital.
Bartrum, R. H.	{ Equal.	Guy's Hospital.
Scurrall, John D.	{ Equal.	University College.
Jones, William Price	University College.
Pittock, George Mayris	Guy's Hospital.

CHEMISTRY.

Jones, W. P. (Gold Medal) ..	University College.
Williams, C. (Gold Medal) ..	Guy's Hospital.
Brown, Thomas Edwin B.	Guy's Hospital.
Scurrall, John Dewhers	University College.
Eisey, Joseph Ravenscroft	Guy's Hospital.
Bartrum, Robert Henry	Guy's Hospital.
Edwards, St. John	University College.
Pittock, George Mayris	Guy's Hospital.
Fawcus, James	University College.

MATERIA MEDICA AND PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTRY.

Brown, T. E. B.	{ Exhibition and Gold Medal }	Guy's Hospital.
Jones, W. P. (Gold Medal)	University College.	
Eisey, J. R.	{ Equal.	Guy's Hospital.
Fawcus, James	{ Equal.	University College.
Bartrum, R. H.	{ Equal.	Guy's Hospital.
Williams, Clement	{ Equal.	Guy's Hospital.

STRUCTURAL AND PHYSIOLOGICAL BOTANY.

Brynn, T. E. B. (Gold Medal) ..	Guy's Hospital.
Williams, Clement	Guy's Hospital.
Scurrall, John Dewhers	University College.
Pittock, George Mayris	Guy's Hospital.

Correspondent.

DISSENTERS AND THE MARRIAGE LAW

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR.—The present state of the marriage law in reference to Dissenters is truly embarrassing. In some instances we have the District Registrars forcing their way into the chapels against the will of the churches. On other occasions, through some neglect, they do not attend at the appointed time, and the parties intending to marry, after waiting for several hours, are obliged to return home disappointed—making their way through the streets amidst the laugh and sneers of State-churchmen.

While, however, Dissenters justly feel indignant at

the neglect and haughtiness of District Registrars, they should consider well what steps to take; otherwise they will be in danger of rushing from bad to worse.

The tone of some journals, and the resolutions passed in several district conferences among the Independents, indicate that the remedy about to be arrived at is, to prevail upon Government to place Dissenting ministers, in solemnizing marriages, on equal grounds with the clergy of the Established Church,—to empower them to contract marriages in their chapels without the aid of any State official.

Now, Sir, I cannot perceive how Dissenters could, in consistency with themselves, accept such a proposal as the hands of Government were it offered them. Different views prevail as to the nature of the marriage contract. The Secularists take it to be a mere political institution; others look at it as purely religious; while a third class hold it to involve a religious element and a political one as well. Thus, while some take the person legally authorized to perform the marriage rites to be a State functionary for secular ends, others consider him to be a State-paid agent for religious purposes. The only course, I presume, among these conflicting circumstances, which Dissenters can consistently adopt, is not to endeavour to share in the monopoly of the State Church, but to abolish it altogether.

Let the State have its district registrars duly instructed and authorized to render marriages valid for all political purposes—not in any church or chapel, but at their own offices—leaving everything religious in the affair to depend on the option of the marrying parties. If they wish to have any religious ceremonies performed, and if, in contracting so sacred a union, they should consider it their duty to entreat the blessing of Heaven, let them do it wherever they please, and in the manner they may deem best; but let not Dissenters, in seeking the removal of their grievances, so commit themselves as to give sanction to one of the main pillars of State-churchism.

I am, dear Sir, yours very truly,

NESTOR.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

CLOSE OF THE SESSION.

The Royal Speech, dismissing noble lords and hon. gentlemen to the recess, was delivered on Saturday by commission—the Lord Chancellor, the Dukes of Newcastle and Argyll, the Marquis of Breadalbane, and Earl Granville, acting in that capacity. The Lord Chancellor read from the woolsack the Address, which was as follows:—

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

We are commanded by her Majesty to release you from your attendance in Parliament, and at the same time to express her Majesty's cordial approbation of the zeal and assiduity with which, during a protracted and laborious session, you have applied yourselves to the consideration of many subjects of great importance to the public welfare.

Her Majesty has seen with much satisfaction that, by the remission and reduction of taxes which tended to cramp the operations of trade and industry, you have given fresh extension to a system of benevolent legislation, and have largely increased the means of obtaining the necessities of life.

The provision which you have made for meeting the demands of the public service, not only in the present, but also in future years, is of a nature to give perfect stability to our finances, and thereby to aid in consolidating the strength and resources of the empire.

The buoyant state of the revenue, and the steady progress of our foreign trade, are proofs of the wisdom of the commercial policy now firmly established; while the prosperity which pervades the great trading and producing classes, happily without even a partial exception, affords continued and increasing evidence of the enlarged comforts of the people.

The measure which you have passed for the future government of India, has been readily sanctioned by her Majesty, in the persuasion that it will prove to have been wisely framed, and that it is well calculated to promote the improvement and welfare of her Majesty's Eastern dominions.

Her Majesty regards with peculiar satisfaction the provision you have made for the better administration of charitable trusts. The obstacles which existed to the just and beneficial use of property set apart for the purposes of charity and of education, have been a serious public evil, to which her Majesty is persuaded that in your wisdom you have now applied an efficient remedy.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

We are commanded by her Majesty to thank you for the supplies which you have granted for the service of the present year, and for the provision which you have made for the defence of the country both by sea and land. Her Majesty will apply them with a due regard to economy, and consistently with that spirit which has at all times made our national security the chief object of her care.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

Her Majesty commands us to inform you that she continues to receive from her allies the assurance of their unabated desire to cultivate the most friendly relations with this country.

It is with deep interest and concern that her Majesty has viewed the serious misunderstanding which has recently arisen between Russia and the Ottoman Porte.

The Emperor of the French has united with her Majesty in earnest endeavours to reconcile differences, the continuance of which might involve Europe in war.

Acting in concert with her allies, and relying on the exertions of the Conference now assembled at Vienna, her Majesty has good reason to hope that an honourable arrangement will speedily be accomplished.

Her Majesty rejoices in being able to announce to you the termination of the war on the frontiers of the settlement of the Cape of Good Hope, and she trusts that the establishment of representative government in that colony may lead to the development of its resources, and enable it to make efficient provision for its future defence.

We are also commanded to congratulate you, that by the united exertions of the naval and military forces of her Majesty and of the East India Company, the war in Burmah has been brought to an honourable and successful issue. The objects of the war having been fully attained, and due submission made by the Burmese government, peace has been proclaimed.

Her Majesty contemplates with grateful satisfaction and thankfulness to Almighty God, the tranquillity which prevails throughout her dominions, together with that peaceful industry and obedience to the laws, which ensure the welfare of all classes of her subjects. It is the first desire of her Majesty to promote the advance of every social improvement, and, with the aid of your wisdom, still further to extend the prosperity and happiness of her people.

The Commons were represented by the Speaker and about fifty members. On returning to the House, the right hon. gentleman read the speech, and then shook hands with the members, who immediately separated.

Among the very miscellaneous business discharged by the Lords on the eve of separation, was, the adoption of the Hackney Carriages Bill, Burials beyond the Metropolis Bill, and the Turnpike Act Continuance Bill (from which Mr. Frewen's anti-dogcart clause had been previously eliminated).—In answer to Lord BROUHAM, the Earl of CLARENDON stated that he had received no official report with respect to the conduct of the Consul-General at Cuba in departing from the stringent measures which, he alleged, he had adopted for the suppression of the slave-trade.

In the Commons, a number of questions were put, and notices given (for next session): those having any public interest we range in the order of their importance:—

Mr. MILNES inquired whether Ministers were able to assure the House as to the moral confidence which her Majesty's Government entertained with respect to the evacuation of the Danubian Principalities being such as to allow Parliament to be prorogued without anxiety? Lord PALMERSTON replied:—

The answer as to the confidence of her Majesty's Government will be given in the shortest possible space—namely, that their belief is that Parliament may be prorogued under present circumstances. As to the evacuation of the Principalities, I have only to say that I am confident the Emperor of Russia, having that regard to his honour and character which every Sovereign of a great country must always be inspired by, will take the earliest opportunity, after the settlement with Turkey, of his own accord, to make a merit of evacuating the Principalities without the smallest delay. That is my confident expectation and belief [cries of hear, hear].

Mr. PELLATT asked what sum was included in the aggregate vote of £281,765 applicable to public education in Great Britain, for establishing new schools in towns where no Town Councils existed, in conformity with the minute of Council; also, whether the sum so voted for this special object would be expended during the suspension of the proposed Education Bill, and, in the event of that bill being ultimately wholly withdrawn, whether the minute of Council in question would be rescinded, and the money deducted from the current year's educational grant, thereby reducing the large sum of £100,000, as compared with the expenditure of 1852? Lord J. RUSSELL said:—

With respect to the question as to a sum for the establishment of new schools in towns where no Town Councils existed, he had to state, that it was the opinion of her Majesty's Government that where cases of that kind occurred, and were brought before the members of the Committee of Council on Education, grants ought to be made in conformity with the minute. With respect to the further question, whether if the bill were ultimately wholly withdrawn that minute would be rescinded, that would be a question for consideration hereafter. It depended on the decision of the Government with respect to the bill to be brought forward next session; and he could not give an answer on that point. With respect to the sum total of the grant, he could not say how much of it was intended for the purpose to which the questions of the hon. member referred.

On the motion of the same hon. gentleman, the following returns were ordered:—Returns of the number of pupil-teachers, male and female, in England and Wales, who have, up to the present time, completed their term of apprenticeship under the Minutes of the Committee of Council on Education; of the number of such pupil-teachers, male and female, who have relinquished the vocation of teaching; and of the amount of public money paid to such last-mentioned pupil-teachers, and to schoolmasters and schoolmistresses, in respect of their instruction.

In answer to a question from Sir DR. L. EVANS, Mr. PEEL said, that the boundary of the Cape colony and the boundary of the Queen's dominions were different things. There was a broad belt between them, which had been occupied by the Kafirs, where the Amatola Mountains were. The struggle had been to dislodge the Kafirs from that mountain stronghold, and, when once removed, it was necessary to take care that they did not resume possession of it. For that reason General Cathcart had made the Amatola Mountains a Crown reserve, and had established fortified posts there. That, of course, was the Queen's property, and under the shelter of those forts there would be a village or two. The Government at home had not disallowed any proposition of General Cathcart, neither had they sanctioned it; but they had authorized him to carry out his plans provisionally. They had not sanctioned it, because they thought that such a course would be premature, and might possibly embarrass General Cathcart, if, after consulting with Sir G. Clerk, he might find it desirable not to carry his proposition into effect.

Mr. KINNAIRD asked for the copy of a decree of the Portuguese Government affecting the celebration of divine worship by Protestants and others not of the Roman Catholic faith.—Lord J. RUSSELL replied that, whatever was the effect of the decree, of which he had not a complete copy, it could not interfere with the treaty of July, 1842, and no complaints had been made by British subjects of its infringement.

In reply to a question from Mr. SPOONER, Lord J. RUSSELL stated, that the members of the commis-

sion for inquiry into the system of education pursued at Maynooth had now been appointed, and would immediately proceed with the investigation entrusted to them.

In reply to Lord D. STUART, Lord J. RUSSELL could hold out no hopes of a further mitigation in the sentence of Edward Murray, who was now confined in the vicinity of Rome.

Mr. AGLIONBY drew the attention of the Home Secretary to the reports which had recently appeared of gross and inhuman outrages upon women, and expressed a hope that the necessity which existed for the adoption of Mr. Phillimore's recommendation of corporal punishments for such offences would be fully recognised next session.—Lord PALMERSTON replied generally that it would be the duty of Government, if the measure passed during the present session had not the effect anticipated, to see what further steps could be taken to check these outrages, which he had read of with great regret.

Colonel SIBTHORP asked if the Home Secretary had adopted any means for putting an end to the nuisance of omnibuses taking up and setting down passengers in the middle of the streets? Lord PALMERSTON said that he had given instructions to the Commissioners of Police to endeavour to accomplish that purpose, so far as the law enabled them to do so. He hoped that legal measures and persuasion would be found sufficient for the purpose.

In reply to another question, Lord PALMERSTON stated that Phillips, the cabman, who was fined by Mr. Henry, had had his fine of 40s. returned to him, with another 40s. for the inconvenience to which he had been exposed.

Sir DE L. EVANS was understood to suggest that some portion of the camp equipage recently employed at Chobham might, with great advantage and convenience, be set apart for the use of the militia during the 21 days that they were to be under arms. Lord PALMERSON said, that the matter should receive the attention of the Government. He was quite aware that much inconvenience had been experienced in the metropolis and other large towns from the difficulty of procuring beds for the whole number of militia.

Mr. I. BUTT asked the Secretary to the Treasury whether any steps had been taken to remedy the postal inconveniences with the south of Ireland? Mr. WILSON said, his noble friend at the head of the Post-office had undertaken, during the recess, to examine the whole question very minutely in order to see whether those side towns might not be accommodated which had been inconvenienced by railway communication. He wished to state one or two facts with respect to the Post-office.

There were no fewer than 156,000 letters and 40,000 newspapers passing daily through the Post-office more than in 1846. Even the number of letters now passing through the Post-office, as compared with the number last December, had increased 33,000 daily. Taking 1841, 1846, and 1853, as three periods, to test the increase, and taking a single week, the last week in June, the number of letters in one week was 3,773,000 in 1841, 5,553,000 in 1846, and 7,700,000 in 1853. Such an increase of business might suggest the almost impossibility of keeping the arrangements in a state adequate to meet it. Registered letters required four entries and the signatures of two clerks. The number of such letters was, in 1846, 27,000; in the present year, 61,000; being an increase of 123 per cent. Another department on which there was a great pressure was the money-order office. In 1841 the whole amount was £960,000; in 1852 it was £9,400,000; and at the present time it was going on to £10,000,000.

Colonel SIBTHORP gave notice of a motion respecting the reduction of the duty upon fire insurances;—Lord DUDLEY STUART that he should move for a select committee to inquire into the cost, maintenance, and general administration of the metropolitan police;—Mr. M. CHAMBERS that he should call attention to the treaties and conventions entered into between the Governments of France and England, in the years 1815 and 1818, for making compensation to British subjects whose property had been confiscated by the French revolutionary authorities, and he should move a resolution to the effect that national good faith required that the just claims of the Baron de Bode, which had been established after a long and protracted investigation, should be satisfied.

PARLIAMENTARY STATISTICS: SESSION 1852-'53. (From the *Spectator*.)

DERBY MINISTRY, 1852.

The Administration of the Earl of Derby, with Mr. Disraeli Chancellor of the Exchequer, replaced Lord John Russell's Administration in February, 1852. It professed Protectionist principles, but promised to be guided by the opinion of the electoral body. It conducted business till the 1st of July, on which day the prorogation took place; and the dissolution of Parliament was announced the same evening. On the 4th November the new Parliament assembled. On the 11th the Queen opened the business of the session in person; and on the 10th December Mr. Disraeli propounded his financial scheme. Debate followed; and on the 16th—the fourth night's debate—a division was taken upon the resolution for extending and doubling the house-tax; the agreement being, that the result should be deemed decisive as regarded the entire financial scheme. By 305 to 286—majority 19—the resolution was rejected, and the Administration retired.

Reckoning the above session as having commenced at the delivery of the Queen's speech (November 11), the period taken by the Derby Administration stands thus:—

Lords, 22 sittings, 26 hours.
Commons, 26 sittings, 146 hours.

ABERDEEN MINISTRY, 1853.

The Earl of Aberdeen's Administration, with Mr. Gladstone Chancellor of the Exchequer, succeeded the Derby Ministry in December 1852, but did not commence its regular Parliamentary functions till Thursday, the 10th February, 1853. At the outset, considerable time was taken up in making arrangements for the trial of controverted elections. Mr. Gladstone made his financial statement on the 18th April. The session closed on Saturday, the 20th August.

Reckoning from the accession to office till the prorogation, the time occupied stands thus:—

Lords, 96 sittings, 290 hours.
Commons, 146 sittings, 980 hours.

Add to these figures the time occupied by the Derby Ministry, and the sessional total is,—

Lords, 120 sittings, 317 hours.
Commons, 175 sittings, 1,128 hours.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

I. MINISTERIAL.

BILLS WHICH HAVE BECOME LAW.	
<i>Financial.</i>	
Income Tax.	Resident Magistrates, Ireland.
Succession Duty.	Crime and Outrage Act, Ireland.
South Sea and other Annuities	Continuance.
Commutation.	Turnpike Acts Continuance, Ireland.
South Sea and other Annuities,	Linen, &c., Manufactures, Ireland.
Provision for Payment.	Dublin Carriages.
Soap Duties.	Drainage of Lands, Ireland.
Customs Duties.	Public Works Act Amendment, Ireland.
Excise Duty on Spirits.	Turnpike Trusts Arrangements.
Stamp Duties.	Turnpike Acts Continuance.
Stamp Duties, No. 2.	Sheep, &c., Contagious Diseases Prevention.
Consolidated Annuities, Ireland.	Highway Rates.
Insurances on Lives: Income-tax Exemption.	Land Tax Redemption.
Transfer of Aids.	Land Tax Redemption Act Amendment.
Exchequer Bills.	Land Tax Commissioners' Names.
Consolidated Fund.	Loan Societies.
Consolidated Fund, £4,000,000.	Friendly Societies.
Consolidated Fund Appropriation.	Defacing the Coin.
Saving Banks Annuities.	Stock in Trade Exemption.
Metropolitan Improvements (Repayment out of Consolidated Fund).	Passengers Act Amendment.
Public Works Loan.	Poor Relief Act Continuance.
Stamp Duties on Patents for Inventions.	Mutiny.
Sales of Bullion.	Marine Mutiny.
Inland Revenue Office.	Entry of Seamen.
Land Revenues.	Naval Coast Volunteers.
Assessed Taxes.	Militia Pay.
Duties on Horses Let for Hire.	Militia Ballots Suspension, &c.
Hackney Carriages Duties.	General Board of Health.
Customs Tariffs.	Indemnity.
<i>Colonial.</i>	
Clergy Reserves, Canada.	Commons Enclosure, No. 2.
Coinage Offences, Colonies.	Commons Enclosure, No. 3.
Government of India.	Whichwood Forest.
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>	
Merchant Shipping.	Sheriff and Commissary Courts, Berwickshire.
Pilotage.	New Forest Deer—Removal Act Amendment.
Customs Acts Consolidation.	Battersea Park.
Charitable Trusts.	Westminster Bridge.
Transportation.	Smoke Nuisance Abatement, Metropolis.
Apprehension of Offenders Act.	Metropolitan Sewers Act Continuance.
Female Convicts. [Amendment.	Thames Embankment.
Betting Houses.	Burials beyond the Metropolis.
Registrar of the Privy Council.	Copyholds.
Copies of Specifications Repeat.	Commission Continuance.
Employment of Children in Factories.	Slave Trade, Sohar in Arabia.
Newspaper Stamp Law Defined.	Slave Trade, New Granada.
Office of Examiner, Court of Chancery.	Liberated Africans, Sierra Leone.
Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.	
Cathedral Appointments.	
Aggravated Assaults.	
Hackney Carriages, Metropolis.	
Sheriff Courts, Scotland.	
Burgh Harbours, Scotland.	
Sheriffs, Scotland.	
Universities, Scotland.	
Bankruptcy, Scotland.	
Entails, Scotland.	
Registrar of Meetings.	
Malicious Injuries, Ireland.	
Valuation Act Amendment, Ireland.	
Grand Jury Cess, Ireland.	
Taxing-officer Common Law Business, Ireland.	
Dublin Parliamentary Registration.	
Encumbered Estates Act, Ireland, Continuance.	
Number of Ministerial Bills introduced	116
Passed into law	104
Lost—withdrawn (10), rejected (2)	12
Total number	237
During the Derby Ministry there occurred ..	8
During the Aberdeen Ministry	249
<i>DIVISIONS.</i>	

II. NON-MINISTERIAL.

BILLS WHICH HAVE BECOME LAW.	
County Elections Poll. (Lord Robert Grosvenor.)	Vaccination Extension. (Lord Lyttelton.)
County Elections Poll, Scotland, (Mr. Elliot.)	Public Libraries, Ireland. (Mr. Fortescue.)
Law of Evidence, Scotland. (Lord Brougham.)	Burghs, Scotland. (Mr. Dunlop.)
Evidence Amendment. (Lord Brougham.)	Convicted Prisoners Removal & Confinement (Lord Hotham.)
Ball in Error. (Lord Campbell.)	
Public Houses, Scotland. (Mr. Forbes Mackenzie.)	
Common Lodginghouses. (Lord Shaftesbury.)	
Courts of Common Law, Ireland. (Mr. Whiteside.)	
Parish Vestries. (Sir G. Pechell.)	
Elections. (Mr. George Butt.)	
Municipal Corporations Act Amendment. (Mr. Tufnell.)	
Chancery Suitors further Relief. (Lord St. Leonards.)	
Lunatic Asylums. (Lord St. Leonards.)	
Lunatics Care and Treatment. (Lord St. Leonards.)	
Lunacy Regulation. (Lord St. Leonards.)	
Oaths in Chancery. (Lord St. Leonards.)	
Patronage Exchange. (Bishop of Oxford.)	
Colonial Bishops Act Extension. (Bishop of St. Asaph.)	
<i>BILLS REJECTED OR WITHDRAWN IN THE COMMONS.</i>	
Parliamentary Electors: to regulate Payment of Rates. (Sir De Lacy Evans.)	
Attorneys and Solicitors' Certificate Duty. (Lord Robert Grosvenor.)	
County Rates and Expenditure. (Mr. Milner Gibson.)	
Sale of Lands, &c., Ireland. (Mr. Whiteside.)	
Recovery of Personal Liberty. (Mr. Thomas Chambers.)	
Factories. (Mr. Cobbett.)	
Juvenile Offenders Act. (Mr. Adderley.)	
Episcopal and Capitular Estates. (Marquis of Blandford.)	
Expenses of Elections. (Mr. Craven Berkeley.)	
Fisheries, Ireland, No. 2. (Mr. M. Mahon.)	
Improvement of Towns, Ireland. (Mr. Ross Moore.)	

Corrupt Practices at Elections.

(Mr. Walpole.)	Juvenile Mendicancy. (Lord Shaftesbury.)
Petty Sessions, Ireland. (Lord Clanricarde.)	Union of Benefices. (Mr. Frewen.)
Summary Jurisdiction, Ireland. (Lord Clanricarde.)	Cruelty to Animals. (Mr. Thomas Duncombe.)
Probates of Wills and Grants of Administration. (Mr. Hadfield.)	Sheriff Courts, Scotland. (Mr. Cranford.)
Probate and Administration. (Mr. Collier.)	Payment of Wages. (Sir Henry Halford.)
Simony Law Amendment. (Mr. Robert Phillimore.)	Friendly Societies, No. 2. (Mr. Sotheron.)
Manchester and Salford Education. (Mr. Brotherton.)	Sale and Purchase of Land. (Mr. Drummond.)
Metropolitan Building Act Further Amendment. (From the Lords.)	Tenant Right, Ireland. (Mr. Sergeant Shee.)
Missionary Bishop Bill. (Archbishop of Canterbury.)	Transfer of Land, Ireland. (Mr. Vincent Scully.)
Colonial Church Regulation. (Archbishop of Canterbury.)	Transferred to Select Committee.
Metropolitan Sewers. (Sir J. Shelley.)	
Highways, Ireland. (Mr. M'Mahon.)	
Glanders Prevention. (Mr. Ker.)	
New Trials, Criminal Cases. (Mr. Isaac Butt.)	
Judges' Exclusion. (Lord Hotham.)	
Absonding Debtors, Ireland. (Mr. Napier.)	
Seamen Savings Banks. (Mr. French.)	
Parish Constables. (Mr. Deedes.)	
Burial Grounds. (Lord Shaftesbury.)	

Lord Lyndhurst's Bill for the Alteration of Oaths was rejected by the Lords on the question of going into Committee.

Several Law Bills introduced by Lord Brougham and Lord St. Leonards, relating to County Courts, Bankruptcy, and the Criminal Law, remain over in the Lords.	
SELECT COMMITTEES.	
India Territories. (Mr. Herries.)	National Gallery. (Col. Mure.)
Criminal and Destitute Children. (Mr. Barnes.)	Assurance Associations. (Mr. Wilson.)
Railway and Canal Bills. (Mr. Henley.)	Strangers and Divisions. (Mr. Muntz.)
Parliamentary Papers: Distribution. (Mr. Tufnell.)	Public Houses. (Mr. W. Brown.)
Coals, Metropolis. (Sir John Shelley.)	Decimal Coinage. (Mr. W. Brown.)
Education, Manchester and Sal-ford.	Slave-trade Treaties. (Mr. Hume.)
Office of Speaker. (Sir Robert Inglis.)	Accidents in Coal Mines. (Mr. Hutchins.)
Ship "Novello." (Mr. Muntz.)	National Police. (Mr. Rice.)

CONTROVERSED ELECTIONS.

MEMBERS UNSEATED.

Places.	Names.	Causes.
Barnstaple	Mr. R. Bremeridge	Bribery & treating by Agents
	Mr. W. A. Fraser	Ditto ditto
Blackburn	Mr. W. Eccles	Bribery by Agents
Berwick-on-Tweed	Mr. M. Forster	Ditto
Bridgnorth	Mr. Stapleton	Treating by Agents
Cambridge	Mr. J. H. Astell	Ditto
Canterbury	Mr. K. Macaulay	Ditto
Chatham	Mr. H. P. Gipps	Ditto
Clitheroe	Mr. H. H. John	

Places.	Against.	Places.	Against.
Surrey (E. D.)	Mr. Alcock.	Westmeath	Mr. P. Urquhart.
Hon. L. King.	Wexford Co.	Mr. J. George.	Youghal
Tipperary	Mr. F. Scully.	Mr. I. Butt.	
Westmeath	Mr. Magan.		

FOR THE FOLLOWING PLACES COMMISSIONS OF INQUIRY HAVE BEEN ISSUED, AND THE WRITS SUSPENDED.

Barnstaple.	Cambridge.	Maidstone.
Canterbury.	Kingston-on-Hull.	Tynemouth.

COLLATERAL PROCEEDINGS.

Derby Election : Inquiry by Select Committee into Major Beresford's (W. B.'s) interference.....	Reported Dec. 16, 1832.
Norwich Election : Inquiry by Select Committee into alleged corrupt "Compromises".....	Reported March 17, 1833.
Berwick Election. (Similar inquiry.)	Reported June 24.
Durham. (Similar inquiry.)	Reported June 22.
Plymouth : Inquiry into Corrupt Practices	Reported July 1.
Peterborough Elections: Interference of Earl Fitzwilliam.....	Reported August 8.
Election Petition Recognizances : the state of the law	Reported July 15.
Dockyard Appointments : Conduct of the Derby Board of Admiralty....	Reported May 23.
Dockyard Appointments : Inquiry into the restoration of Lieutenant Englefield.	Reported July 22.
Chatham Election : Sir John Shelley's motion to prosecute Sir Frederick Smith for bribery is negatived by 188 to 78.	
Dockyard Appointments : Mr. Keating's motion condemnatory of the Election Practices of the Derby Board of Admiralty was brought on, but not pronounced upon, through the tactics of its opponents.	
Bill for the better punishment of Bribery, Treating, and Intimidation, brought in by Mr. Walpole, read a second time; and lies over for next session.	

NEW ACTS OF PARLIAMENT.

The leading provisions of the Charitable Trusts Bill are these:—The Crown will appoint four commissioners, a secretary, and two inspectors. The Board thus formed are authorized to inquire into all charities in England and Wales, "the nature and objects, administration, management, and results thereof." They may require from the trustees of such charities whatever accounts and information they may deem needful, and their inspectors may examine trustees and other parties on oath. They may entertain applications for their opinion or advice relative to the disposition of funds, or for the settlement of disputes. No legal proceedings respecting any charity can be taken without previous notice to this Board, who may commence such proceedings without such notice, and at their own instance. Building leases may be granted, mines wrought, and improvements made at their discretion, and money be raised on mortgage, and lands sold and exchanged for the purpose. They may also authorize the removal of schoolmasters and mistresses and other officers. Where the incomes of charities exceed £30, the Masters of the Rolls and Vice-Chancellors sitting at chambers will have the same jurisdiction as the Court of Chancery, and with less of technical formality. In the case of charities of smaller amount, the District Courts of Bankruptcy and the County Courts will have jurisdiction, subject, however, to a reconsideration of their decisions at the instance of the Board, or to an appeal to the Court of Chancery. An annual report of the Board's proceedings is to be laid before Parliament, and all trustees are to deliver accounts to the clerks of County Courts, clerks of the Peace, and to the Board.

On Saturday, the new act for the suppression of betting-houses received the Royal assent. It will come into operation on the 1st of December next, before which day all betting-offices must be closed. According to the act, no house, office, or place, is to be kept for betting purposes on any race, fight, game, sport, or exercise of any kind. Such places are now declared to be a "common nuisance, and contrary to law." Betting-houses are to be considered gaming-houses. For keeping such a place the owner, or occupier, will be liable to a penalty of £100, or to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for six months. Any person receiving money, or any valuable thing, as a deposit, on condition of paying money on the event of any bet, will be liable to a fine of £50, or to imprisonment for three months. Money so received may be recovered from the person receiving the same. The act is to extend to stakes due to the owners of horses running races. Persons exhibiting placards, or advertising betting-houses, will be liable to a penalty of £30, or to imprisonment for two months. The penalties may be recovered by distress warrant, and half to go to the informer, and the other half in aid of the poor-rate. In case a complaint lodged should not be pursued, a justice may authorize other persons to proceed. Suspected houses may be searched by order of a justice, and the police commissioners may empower a superintendent to search houses suspected. An appeal for conviction under the act is given to the quarter sessions. The act is to have effect in England and Ireland, but is not to extend to Scotland. It is enacted that "This act shall commence and come into operation on the 1st December, 1833." It would seem that there is nothing in the act to prevent a person making a bet with any one keeping a place for betting purposes, and then turning informer to get large sum.

The new act to make better provision concerning the entry and service of seamen, and otherwise to amend the laws concerning her Majesty's navy, has been issued, and will come into immediate operation. Its object is to extend the service of men and boys, and otherwise to amend the law concerning the manning and discipline of the navy. Former provisions, amended, are extended to men entering for

ten years, or for any other term of continuous and general service. Boys under eighteen entering are liable to serve till twenty-one, and when eighteen or upwards to serve for ten years, and so on. Extra pay is to be granted to men detained after the expiration of the period of service, in cases of emergency. Persons entering the navy are to be entitled to such bounty as may be fixed by Royal proclamation. The act is not to affect the right of the Admiralty to enter seamen for any period, and to discharge them. Men entering for continuous and general service, and boys, are to be entitled to pay while in sick quarters, under certain regulations. Spirituous liquors are not to be brought on board her Majesty's ships without the commander's consent. Men absent for forty-eight hours without leave are to forfeit their pay during absence. Power is given to try and punish summarily persons guilty of desertion. Imprisonment, under sentence of naval courts, may be either with or without hard labour. It is provided that persons making fraudulent representations on entering the navy may be punished as rogues and vagabonds. Railway companies are, by this act, required to convey naval forces upon the same terms as the military and police forces.

The new act on transportation will take effect on the 12th of September next.

The new Hackney Carriage Act partly came into force on Monday. The act has reference to licenses, and the duties payable thereon, and there are several clauses framed in consequence of the late strike. A driver is entitled to charge 1s. for every mile or part of a mile beyond the circumference of a circle the radius of which shall be four miles from Temple-bar. An additional 6d. beyond two persons for every person can now be charged, and two children under ten are to be considered as one adult person. The proprietor of every hackney carriage or metropolitan stage carriage who shall withdraw his carriage from hire for two consecutive days, or for any two days in one week, without just cause, of which the magistrate before whom the complaint is heard shall be the judge, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding 20s. for each day, and the license shall be suspended, or recalled or taken away, at the discretion of the Commissioners of Police. In case a proprietor intends to withdraw his vehicle from hire, he must give ten days' notice of such intention.

DECIMAL COINAGE.

The report of the Select Committee on Decimal Coinage, appointed on the motion of Mr. William Brown, of Liverpool, has just been printed, and is a clear and concise document. It appears, as might have been expected, that all the witnesses examined were unanimous respecting the advantages that would attend the introduction of the decimal system, and that the only open question among them was with regard to the relative ease and superiority of the various methods suggested for its accomplishment. In the United States the old system of pounds, shillings, and pence was superseded by the decimal system of dollars and cents without any inconvenience having been caused, and in Ireland, when the 13 pence, which at one time constituted an English shilling, were replaced by 12 English pence, although a prejudice was originally felt among the poor from their receiving only 12 coins of the same name as those of which they had previously got 13, they soon found that the injury was imaginary. With regard to the various contracts and prices which would have to be rearranged, the extent of the alterations rendered necessary would depend on the exact system adopted. The plan recommended by the committee is that the pound should be the unit, and that the relation of the several coins should be as follows:—

	Mils.	Mils.
Sovereign	1,000	New silver coins
Half-sovereign	500	{ 20
Crown	250	{ 10
Florin	100	{ 5
Shilling	50	{ 2
Sixpence	25	{ 1

Under this plan, the existing threepenny and fourpenny pieces would be put out of circulation, and, in place of the penny, a new copper coin would be introduced equal in value to the tenth instead of the twelfth part of a shilling. The payments that would be affected by the alteration are all the minor ones at present made in pennies, halfpennies, and farthings, and although no inconvenience would arise in the sale of goods, since the size of a penny loaf or any other article would be altered by the dealer to correspond with the altered value of the coin he receives for it, there are cases, such as tolls on railways, bridges, ferries, roads, &c., in which private interests are concerned, that would have to be the subject of adjustment, since if, instead of charging one penny or four farthings, as at present, the nearest equivalent toll under the decimal system—namely, one of four mills were substituted, the change would involve a loss to the receiver of the toll of 4 per cent.; while, on the other hand, raising the toll to 5 mils would involve a loss to the payer of 20 per cent. The case of the penny postage, also, is an important element in this part of the matter, as well as the new penny receipt stamp. While considerable discontent would, in the opinion of Mr. Rowland Hill, be excited by raising the postage charge to 5 mils, and thus making an addition to it of 20 per cent., the adoption of 4 mils, involving a reduction of 4 per cent., would cause a loss to the revenue of £100,000. All these things, however, merely relate to the way in which the great principle should be carried out, and have nothing to do with the question as to whether it should be carried out or not. On that point the conclusion of the committee is unequivocal and emphatic, and they consequently urge the necessity of decisive action.

Foreign and Colonial Intelligence.

THE NAPOLEON FETES.

In our last number we were able to give an account of only a portion of the fêtes at Paris in honour of "Saint Napoleon." On Monday evening there was a State dinner; and the Emperor and Empress returned to St. Cloud about ten o'clock.

Out of the palace the crowd began to assemble in dense masses from an early hour, and plenty of amusement was provided for them. The theatres were open, gratis; there were boat-races at Bercy; in the Champ de Mars a mimic representation of the capture of Leghout in Algeria was given; and the tournaments of the Field of the Cloth of Gold were revived. In addition to this representation, M. Buislay rolled his ball, whilst standing on it, up a spiral inclined plane; Madame Saqui, now seventy-six, danced like a young girl of eighteen; and M. Godard made a balloon ascension. All the principal points of amusement were visited by the Emperor and Empress.

But the great show of the fête was the illuminations and fireworks. The vast space lying between the Tuileries, the Arc de Triomphe, and the Barrière de l'Etoile, was full of fanciful structures, arcades in succession, broken with porticos, and the whole hung thickly with lamps, which, when lighted, formed a sketch of the architecture in fiery outlines. The avenue of the Champs Elysées looked like an interminable ball-room. The garden of the Tuileries and the Place de la Concorde were full of light. Nearly a million lamps were blazing altogether. All the reports speak of the scene as unexampled. Later in the evening, some very grand fireworks were exhibited at the Invalides. The chief piece, however, was the "apotheosis" of Napoleon the Great; who stood in Imperial robes with his feet on the globe, amid the fiery columns of a gigantic temple of Immortality. Some idea may be formed of the scale of this piece by the fact that the figure of Napoleon was sixty feet high. The scene closed with the sudden illumination of the dome of the Invalides with red Bengal lights.

It is remarked that everywhere the fête was for the people. Neither in the theatres, nor in the Champ de Mars, nor at the boat-races, nor at the fireworks, were any places reserved. This is the first time of such an occurrence even in the annals of Paris.

The Emperor and Empress left for Dieppe on Saturday and arrived in the evening. They took up their residence at the Hôtel de Ville, which is fitted up for their reception, furniture and hangings having been sent for that purpose from the Garde-meuble. They were well received by the people, and the authorities were very obsequious. According to present arrangements, the Emperor will return to Paris alone in three or four days, and set out almost immediately afterwards for Lille and the camp at Helfaut. Preparations for his reception are already making at Lille and St. Omer. After his excursion in the northern departments, his Majesty will rejoin the Empress at Dieppe.

By Imperial decree in the *Moniteur*, all corn and flour, however imported into France before the 1st of January next, is to pay the minimum duty fixed by the law of the 15th of April, 1832. Rice, meal, and pulse will, during the said period, pay a fixed duty of 25 centimes per 100 kilogrammes.

There was a meeting of the French Academy on Saturday. As usual, a large assemblage of literary, artistic, and fashionable personages were present. Amongst the Academicians in their seats was M. Guizot, whose son, M. Guillaume Guizot, divided with Charles Benoit, *agréé* of the faculty of letters of Paris, the Monthly prize of the year (3,000 francs) for the best historical and literary paper on the comedies of Menander. It is stated that M. Villemain, the secretary, made an original and elegant speech, but that being full of political allusions and covert praise of Parliamentary Government, it was suppressed by the papers.

THE TURKISH DIFFICULTY.

It appears that the Vienna note reached Constantinople on the 7th inst., and a telegraphic despatch of the 13th states, that the Divan was still in deliberation, though disposed to acquiesce in its acceptance. The *Times*, of Saturday, expresses a strong opinion that the Porte ought to accept the note, and insists that the four Powers have obtained better terms for Turkey than she has obtained herself, and that nothing could be more fatal to her than a war with Russia.

The Sultan has issued a manifesto to his subjects, stating the case between himself and Russia; telling the people that he is prepared for war; and exhorting Moslim and all other subjects to dwell in harmony. One passage is worth noting:—

As has been already mentioned, the claims of Russia relate to the religious privileges of the Greeks. The Greek sect and their chiefs have, personally, nothing to do with this affair, but have, on the contrary, expressed their gratitude and thanks to their Government, and are sorry that such a question has ever been mooted: they must not, therefore, be looked upon as enemies. Armenians, Catholics, Protestants, and Jews, are also the true and faithful subjects of our Lord and Padishah; the Greeks are so, also; and they must, therefore, live in peace with each other.

General Prim arrived in Constantinople on the 1st inst., authorized by the Queen of Spain to accept a post in the army in defence of the Sultan, in case of a war with Russia. Queen Isabel has not yet been acknowledged by the Czar. According to another statement General Prim has some mission connected with the Holy Shrines.

The Constantinople correspondent of the Vienna *Wanderer* concludes one of his letters by saying:—"The number of Russian agents who rove about in the

suburbs inhabited by Greek and other Christians, agitating against the Mahomedans, is daily increasing. Even ladies of rank, or women pretending to belong to high families, have taken rooms in the first hotels at Pera, and stimulate the Greek priests to do battle for their faith."

Omar Pasha has advanced his outposts to points on the right bank of the Danube, where an actual collision may chance to take place. The Turkish commander has intimated that he shall fire on any armed vessels under the Russian flag which attempt to ascend the Danube above the confluence of the Pruth, to which point they are entitled by treaty to advance. Four gunboats which had arrived as high as Galatz have been summoned to descend the stream. One of the long flat islands near Ismail, which are by treaty neutral territory, has been partly fortified by the Russians and connected with the shore of Bessarabia by a wooden bridge. On this point, also, the Turks are said to have raised works opposite to those of their antagonists.

The following is from Bucharest under date August 10th:—

The greatest excitement prevails among the boyards. It is caused by a firman of the Sultan, dismissing the Hospodar, for having received the Russians with too much favour. This firman having been read to the Assembly of Boyards, they petitioned the Hospodar to retain the Government. The Hospodar has consented. Upon this the Consuls of France and Great Britain have immediately suspended their relations with his Government. The French Consul has placed his countrymen under the protection of Greece, while the British Consul declared to the English residents in the Principality that he could not any longer protect them, since the Hospodar opposed his Sovereign's command.

In the Black Sea, north-east winds, which impede navigation, had set in. A large number of vessels, riding at their anchors off Penderaklia, and other points of the coast, had been compelled to run out to sea, to avoid being driven on shore.

We learn from St. Petersburg, under date of the 12th, that the Emperor had just reviewed the troops at Zarskoe Solo, and ordered a silver rouble to be given to each soldier as a mark of his satisfaction. The gratuities of this year at the camp near St. Petersburg alone amount to 400,000 roubles. In addition to a number of Austrian officers, the Prussian Lieutenant-General von Lindheim, with two other Prussian officers, were present at the above manoeuvres. The Emperor has, on the representation of the Chief of the Marine, ordered the full complement of men for the fleet to be made up. On the 9th inst. the fleet off Cronstadt practised gunnery in the presence of the Emperor. On the following day the division of the White returned with the usual honours into port, to be laid up in ordinary; the two other divisions of the fleet are still going through their evolutions in the Bay of Finland.

The Austrian post-office authorities have given notice that, the mouth of the Danube being impassable, the Constantinople mail will be forwarded every Wednesday by way of Trieste. Letters for Jassy will be sent every Thursday by way of Galatz. Thirty Austrian vessels laden with corn are to be towed up the river from the Sulina. A Vienna correspondent of the *Augsburg Gazette*, who is accustomed to express the opinions of this Government, writes, that it is to be supposed no dredging will be done this summer, notwithstanding the recent pacific communications of the St. Petersburg Cabinet. Whether the sand will be completely removed at some future time is another question, "but we may reasonably entertain doubts of the goodwill of Russia in this matter." We are then informed that the Russians may possibly be saved the trouble of dredging, as the idea of restoring the Trajan's Canal from Chernavoda to Kostendsche has been revived. The expense is described as comparatively small, and the canal would render the communication between the Danube and the Levant "independent of the good or bad will of Russia." A hope is expressed that the realization of the plan will be one of the first fruits of peace.

The Russian Government is preparing for another campaign against the tribes of the Caucasus. The operations will commence in the latter part of August. A flotilla is being armed in the Sea of Azof to support the movements of the army.

Some despatches have been published, showing that the Prince of Moldavia was, by an order from Count Nesselrode, dated the 3rd of June, ordered, on the 23rd of that month, to cease all official relations with the Ottoman Porte, and to pay his tribute into the hands of the Russian officials. The Prince of Moldavia enclosed the correspondence to Redschid Pacha. In reply, the Turkish Minister recalled the Prince. He says that the Sultan had trusted the declaration of Prince Gortschakoff that no change would be made; but as the Russian Court now attacked the system of the provinces in its foundations, it would be better that Prince Ghika should withdraw.

A ROYAL MARRIAGE.

The Archduchess Maria, daughter of Archduke Joseph, Palatine of Austria, the affianced bride of the Duke of Brabant, heir apparent of the throne of the King of the Belgians, arrived at Aix-la-Chapelle on Friday, where she slept. At 8 a.m. she left by the railway, accompanied by a detachment of the Imperial Archer Guards. The Prussian authorities of the district were in waiting. The Hotel Brelley, in the environs of Terviers, had been fixed upon for the delivery of her Royal Highness's person, by her Austrian attendants, to her spouse and father-in-law. To this end, the place had been declared neutral territory for the time being. Her Royal Highness arrived about 11 a.m., and retired to change her simple travelling dress

for a Court costume radiant with diamonds. King Leopold and his sons arrived a few minutes later, and the Duke of Brabant was invested with the Order of the Golden fleece. The Royal personages, after these preparations, entered the grand hall, and Count O'Sullivan de Grass (Commissioner of the King of the Belgians), and Prince Schwarzenberg (Imperial Commissioner), with formal speeches delivered over their young and blooming charge to King Leopold. A receipt for the lady was duly made out, and placed in the hands of Prince Schwarzenberg. Several noblemen and gentlemen were then invested with orders of knighthood, and the party adjourned to a solemn breakfast, at which they continued till 1 p.m. At 1 p.m. a railway train stopped before the garden of the Hotel Brelley, and the Royal family were accompanied to it by the family of their noble host, and took their places in the carriages prepared for them. Speeches and addresses were inflicted on King Leopold and his fair daughter-in-law by the authorities of Verviers, and as they passed along the line by those of Liege, Tirlemont, Lourain, and Malines. There were also beveries of beautiful girls, with bouquets, &c., awaiting the stoppage of the train at all those places.

At six p.m. precisely the Royal bridal train entered the station at Brussels. The *corps diplomatique*, the Belgian ministers, the municipal authorities, the judicial dignitaries, the representatives of various commercial and learned societies, a great number of military officers, with a host of the leaders of Belgium, were in waiting to receive them. Speeches were delivered by the burgomasters of the commune, in which the station is situated, and of Brussels; the Royal party entered their carriages and drove slowly through the thronged streets to the palace, where the King, the young Archduchess, the Duke of Brabant, and the Princess Charlotte, had exhibited themselves at the balcony. An immense prolonged shout from the multitude, heard above the clamour of all the bells and cannon in Brussels, terminated the proceedings about seven p.m.

The Royal bride being indisposed by her journey, the civil marriage which was to have taken place on Sunday morning was delayed. The ecclesiastical ceremony was to take place on Monday at the Cathedral with great pomp. English, French, and Germans are heard at the corner of every street. From all accounts the most curious spectacle of the whole will be the procession of guilds in the costume and with the insignia of the 16th century. The Belgian journalists are ecstatically eloquent on the honour and glory of having an Austrian Princess again to reign over them!

The *Times* correspondent thus describes the bride and bridegroom:—

The Duke de Brabant is still very young—only eighteen years of age, but of tall stature, with quite a Bourbon face—not the rounded contour of a Louis XVI., or a Duke de Bordeaux, but nearer the older and more elongated type of a Louis Quatorze, or his own ancestor, the first Duke d'Orleans. His manners are precocious, as is usually the case with plants of a royal conservatory—the coolness, the *à plomb*, and the knowledge of persons which he has belonging rather to a man of thirty. The Archduchess Maria is of middle height, of moderate complexion, of a fine healthy complexion, and of a most pleasing expression of countenance. She wore a costume of blue and white.

INTRIGUES IN SERVIA.

There is a charming ambiguity about the Principality of Servia. Of the collection of a formidable body of Austrian troops on the frontiers there is no doubt. One paper gives the following account of alleged Austrian intrigues:—

M. de Radosavlievics, an Austrian Consul-General, has lately been making a tour of inspection through Bosnia and Servia, and has startled the Porte not a little by the threat of a grievous complication of the existing difficulties. M. de Radosavlievics, it seems, declared to Alexander Karagorjevitch, the Prince of Servia, that Austria was prepared, in case of any eventuality, to occupy Servia with her troops, in order to suppress any dangerous movement among the population. This threat was uttered in the guise of friendship, the Consul-General endeavouring to make it appear to the Prince that Austria would, even unasked, afford him assistance to keep down incipient rebellion. The Prince, having refused the offer of the Consul-General, at once sent off a special messenger to Constantinople with an account of this Austrian overture, and Redschid Pasha referred to the Baron de Bruck for further explanations. The latter confirmed what the Consul-General had previously communicated to the Prince, alleging the fear that Austria was in, lest her subjects on the borders of Servia, and of a kindred race with that people, should become involved in any disturbances arising in that province. The reply of Redschid Pasha was to the effect, that any occupation of Servia by Austrian troops would be considered an act of hostility by the Porte, who would herself be answerable for the tranquillity of that province; moreover, the Pasha promised that a special commissioner should be at once sent to see and report upon the state of affairs in Servia. It is said that Austrian intrigue has been active of late in Servia. Michel Obrenovich, the ex-Prince of Servia, and a Russian *protégé*, who has been living in exile in Austria, and never allowed to approach the frontier, has lately been permitted to visit Pancsova, at which place he met with Vuchich, the head of the Russian party in Servia, by appointment.

According to a Belgo-Austrian narrative, M. de Bruck had forestalled Redschid Pasha's demand of an explanation by volunteering the information that Austria had deemed it necessary to be prepared for all contingencies, but that not one Austrian soldier should set foot on Ottoman ground without the consent of the Porte. It is not, however, attempted to be denied that the Austrian Consul-General at Belgrade may have used different and ruder language to Prince Alexander; it is only alleged that if he did so he exceeded his instructions.

A telegraphic message received on Monday, told of "the outbreak of a rebellion in Servia." On Tuesday

the report dwindles down to a rumour in the *Journal de Frankfort*, that a slight *émeute* had taken place there on the question of the restoration to the throne of the son of Prince Milosch.

In his interesting speech last Tuesday, Mr. Layard gave the following narrative of recent events in Servia:—

On his arrival at Constantinople, and immediately after his public entry, celebrated by every demonstration calculated to insult the Porte and to encourage rebellion among her Christian subjects, Prince Menschikoff demanded the immediate dismissal of M. Garaschinin, the popular Minister of the Prince of Servia. That demand was complied with, without any notice whatever being taken of it by this country; but the Servian Senate protested against it in a document so firm, and so honourable to the parties who framed it, that I regret time will not allow me to read it to the House. This first step would have given the key to the whole of Prince Menschikoff's mission to any one acquainted with the course of Russian policy in the East. M. Garaschinin was the popular national Minister—one of the men whom the events of 1848 brought forth—events which I may claim to speak of with confidence, as I was not altogether unconnected with them. The House may remember that at that period Prince Michael, son of Molisch, was expelled by a popular movement from Servia, and that the reigning Prince, Kara-George, was raised to the dignity in his stead. That was part of a national movement made against foreign influence—particularly against that of Russia, in whose hands Michael and his family were mere tools. The Russian Government claimed the right of interference in Servia, which, in my humble opinion, was completely unauthorized by treaty, but in the assertion of which Russia was unfortunately supported by the English Government. Russia insisted on the Porte annulling the popular act, and expelling from Servia all those who had been engaged in it. The noble earl now at the head of the Government (Lord Aberdeen), but then Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, made, on that occasion, a declaration which I have always considered to be subversive of public law, and as making the will of the strongest the law of Europe. He declared that Russia had a right to place her own construction on her own treaties. By her success in that transaction, Russia showed that she was mistress of Servia, and could check any rising independent nationality.

THE CAPE COLONY.

The "Harbinger" arrived at Southampton on Thursday, with papers from the Cape to the 7th July.

Nothing had happened beyond the ordinary routine of a peaceful and progressive settlement. The constitution was legally promulgated on the 1st July; and clear directions as to registration had been issued by the Government. "The public and the Government," says the *Cape Town Mail*, "are completely reconciled. Real discontent has disappeared." A sufficient number of persons had been invited to become candidates for the Council of Fifteen, and three had accepted the invitation.

General Cathcart, still on the frontier, had assumed the office of "High Commissioner for the settling and adjustment of the territories in Southern Africa, adjacent or contiguous to the eastern and north-eastern frontier of this colony, save and except the Orange River Sovereignty," in which capacity he is authorized to "take all such measures, and do all such matters and things as by him may be lawfully and discreetly done, for preventing the recurrence of any irruption into the said colony of any tribes inhabiting any of the territories aforesaid, and for maintaining the said colony in peace and safety from invaders, and for promoting, as far as may be possible, the good order, civilization, and moral and religious instruction of the tribes aforesaid." Sir George Russell Clerk and Mr. Owen had entered on their duties. Farming operations had recommenced with vigour in the lately disturbed districts; and the Kafirs had begun to trade. The frontier post of the 7th July brought two Government notices to Cape Town. One announces a regulation for preventing Tamboos from entering the colony without passes from persons authorized to grant them, on pain of imprisonment, with light labour, and the imposition of a fine on the chief to whose community the intruder may belong. The other provides in detail for the support of armed men on all the frontier farms lately granted, or to be granted, on quit-rent.

Lady Sale, wife of the celebrated Sir Robert Sale, died at Cape Town on the 6th July. She had arrived only a few days from India, intending to recruit her health at the Cape.

THE FISHERIES DISPUTE.

This long-standing grievance between the United States and England is by no means settled. While diplomats are negotiating, some Yankee fishermen are taking more decided measures. The *New York Herald*, the filibustering journal of the Union, states, that some fifteen or twenty vessels have arrived at the fishing-grounds from Gloucester, Massachusetts, New Castle, N.H., and Kittery, Maine, armed with muskets, boarding-pikes, cutlasses, and swivels, determined to fight if interfered with. Collisions are daily expected. The eastern people are said to be satisfied with reciprocity, but are all in arms against the registry of British vessels to control the coasting trade.

The same journal gives a curious story on this subject. It roundly asserts that the fisheries of the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the Bay of Fundy, and, in short, all the coasts of the British American provinces, are not public, but private, property. They belong, we are told, to an individual who is pleased to assume the designation of Earl of Stirling, and who claims them in virtue of a grant, from James VI. of Scotland, and First of England, to Sir William Alexander, first Earl of Stirling, whom he affirms to be his ancestor. This person is said to have transferred his rights to an American company, which is about to fit out a

fishing vessel to try the question. If the British authorities interfere with this craft, the American law courts are to be appealed to, and in the event of their deciding in favour of Lord Stirling and his company, the Government at Washington is to be called upon to support the decree; and, according to the writer in the *New York Herald*, large concessions on the part of Great Britain, or war between the two countries, must be the result. The said Lord Stirling is now in Washington, "whither he is said to have come by advice of some of the leading statesmen of Great Britain, who thought this the place most advantageously to assert his rights. He is a man of venerable appearance, some seventy years of age, of dignified and courteous manners, and of well-established personal honour and integrity. He is accompanied by his son."

The *Washington Union* sustains the conduct of Commander Ingraham in the Smyrna affair, and maintains that he was not only authorized to resort to amicable interposition, but that it was his duty to his Government to exert just as much power as was necessary to arrest the Austrian outrage and prevent its consummation.

O'Donohue, the Irish convict, who recently escaped by Australia, had been held to bail at Boston for challenging the chairman of a festival held in honour of Meagher. O'Donohue alleges that the chairman silenced him in the middle of a speech by ordering the gase to be extinguished.

The New York correspondent of the *Times* states that General Pierce, who went into the Presidential office under auspices so fair, has turned out to be a weak, irresolute, and vacillating man. What his policy will be nobody can tell. Many of the ablest Democrats in the Congress, which is to assemble next December, openly proclaim their hostility to him. His Administration has, thus far, disappointed all parties; he has given satisfaction to no section, faction, or interest, and he finds himself without friends and without support.

PEACE WITH BURMAH.

The *Gazette* of Tuesday contained a despatch received at the India House on that day from Lord Dalhousie. This document narrates the course of the negotiations and events in Burmah to the termination of hostilities.

It appears that after the King of Ava was dethroned, messengers bore the submission of his successor, the Mengdoon Prince, to the British camp, and begged for peace. The only objection raised by the envoy was, that the frontier should be at Meaday. Upon this the concession of Meaday was offered; when the Burmese envoy refused to sign the treaty, and withdrew. As a consequence, "the British frontier was finally fixed to the northwest of Meaday and Toungoo." The King of Ava did not sustain his envoy, but still desiring peace, he ordered the Burmese troops not to attack Meaday and Toungoo; set at liberty British subjects imprisoned in Ava, and expressed his wish that "the merchants and people of both countries should be allowed, in accordance with former friendship, to pass up and down the river for the purpose of trading." The response was not less amicable.

The Governor-General in Council is willing to accept these pacific declarations and acts of the King as substantial proof of his acquiescence in the proposed conditions of peace, although a formal treaty has not been concluded. Wherefore, the Governor-General in Council permits the raising of the river blockade; consents to the renewal of former intercourse with Ava, and now proclaims the restoration of peace. The army of Ava will no longer be maintained on a war establishment. At the same time, a force will be permanently retained in Pegu, amply adequate for its defence, and fully prepared for the event of war.

Lord Dalhousie returns thanks to all the officers and men engaged in the war: Commodore Lambert, Sir John Cheape, and Captain Lynch, are especially mentioned.

The following is the substance of intelligence which arrived yesterday, by submarine telegraph, in anticipation of the overland mail:—The King of Ava, being starved into submission, has sued for peace, set the British prisoners at liberty, and requested that the river blockade may cease. The Governor-General has assented, and proclaimed peace, although a formal treaty has not been concluded. Trade in India dull; markets easy. In China the Imperialist forces had attempted to regain Ching Kung Foo, but without success, notwithstanding foreign aid. Markets dull.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

A letter from Alexandria of the 5th inst., states that a coal mine has been discovered on Mount Sinai.

The duties on solid bitumen, in France, have been abolished.

The official journal of Vienna, of the 17th instant, says that the state of siege is to cease in Prague, and in Vienna and its suburbs, on the 1st of September.

The yield of wheat this year in Upper Canada is enormously large, larger than has ever been known before—it averages forty bushels to the acre.

Lola Montez was married in San Francisco on the 2nd ult., to Mr. P. P. Hull, late proprietor of the *San Francisco Whig*.

The Industrial Exhibition at Moscow has been closed with great success. 568 exhibitors had contributed, and the Exhibition had been visited by 35,000 persons.

The affiance of the Emperor of Austria with the second daughter of the Archduke Maximilian of Bavaria took place at Ischl on the 19th of August. The young lady is sixteen years of age!

The Vienna *Presse* asserts that an interview, by appointment, has taken place at Wiener Neustadt between the Count de Chambord and the Duc de Nemours.

M. Baze has again written to a Belgian journal, declaring that he will not avail himself of the permission to return to France accorded by Louis Napoleon at the instance of the improvisatore.

The installation of the Archbishop of Vienna was made a public festival to raise the spiritual authorities in the estimation of the people; the troops lined the principal streets through which the procession passed.

The yellow fever continues to rage fearfully at New Orleans, and has also appeared in Mobile. In 48 hours, ending on the 2nd inst., 299 deaths occurred, of which 243 were by yellow fever.

The King of Naples has issued a decree, dated Ischia, the 8th, taking off all duty on foreign corn, barley, oats, pulse, and flour, until the end of December.

Letters from Zante to the 6th inst. state that the harvest of currants has begun. The produce is estimated at 4,000,000 lbs., of which 1,000,000 lbs. will be good, 2,000,000 lbs. of medium quality, and 1,000,000 lbs. of bad quality, or probably quite unsaleable.

The cholera is dying out at Copenhagen. The total number of cases have been 6,829, of whom 3,697 have died. Amongst the contributors to the voluntary cholera fund we observe the name of Mr. Peto mentioned for 3,000 mark banco. The disease still rages at St. Petersburg.

The *Ami de la Religion* had a circumstantial announcement of the conversion to the Roman Catholic religion of a "noble Russian who lately occupied a brilliant position in diplomacy." The individual bears the name (besides several aliases) of Alexis Somoff, and finding that the Russian Government was about to demand his extradition, has disappeared!

Accounts from Tahiti of the 4th of May state that the French Empire was proclaimed on the 17th of April by M. Page, "Commander of the Marquesas," with 300 guns. In the evening there was an illumination and a dinner given by the Governor. The Queen and her husband and the Consuls of England and the United States were present.

Popular spirit is not quite dead in Tuscany. A letter from Florence, of the 14th inst., states that a popular demonstration had been made at Leghorn on the occasion of laying the first stone of the new port. It was said that two incendiary shells had exploded before the residence of the Grand Duke. The inhabitants, moreover, refused to illuminate their houses on the occasion.

A letter from Copenhagen, dated the 15th instant, states that the reports of a treaty of neutrality between Denmark and Sweden in case of a war between Russia and the Western Powers are destitute of all foundation. The Danish Government is not in a position to espouse a Scandinavian line of policy if opposed to any of the great Powers.

The *Journal de Maine et Loire*, of the 19th, speaks of a wondrous meteor, a species of rolling cloud, which, on the 16th, swept along the ground for many leagues in the communes of Jarze, Sermaise, and Brossai, carrying terror and destruction in its course. It tore up by the roots sixty poplars and an old oak tree 35 feet high, carried away the roofs of houses, and whole groves of walnut trees, and set the population of the district running right and left for their lives.

M. de Lichtenfels, the Dutch Catholic Minister of Worship, has left Rome. He has obtained an authorization for the Catholic bishops to take the oath of fealty according to the formula required by the Dutch Government, and an assurance that the Archbishop and Bishop of Utrecht and Haarlem will be recommended by his Holiness not to take up their residences in those cities for the present; but as to any change in the sees, or any other important modification of the Bull, it is in vain to attempt to break through the passive resistance of Pio Nono and the Sacred College.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

(From our Correspondent.)

GREAT SCARCITY OF LABOUR — REVIVAL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL ENDOWMENT QUESTION — SUSPENSION OF MINING AND PUBLIC WORKS — ELECTION IN ADELAIDE — HIGH REVENUE AND HIGH PRICES.

Brighton, May 19, 1853.

We are suffering in the midst of our rapidly-augmenting wealth. The scarcity of a labouring population among us is more seriously felt than the oldest provincials ever remember. The gold-fields still retain multitudes of our best hands. Indeed, many of them are now lost to the labour market. They have ascended to a higher scale in their social position, and our most eager desire now is to have their number replaced from the mother country. The consequence of this natural, although only temporary, bereavement, is an exorbitant wage commanded by every labourer and mechanic in the province. Carpenters, wheelwrights, cabinet-makers, and similar trades, command 12s. per day. Jewellers, watch-makers, tin and iron smiths, command from £5 to £6 per week. Servant-girls now usually receive from 7s. to 12s. and even 14s. per week. Very many persons who would be glad to remunerate labour at this high rate, and some of the most respectable persons in the country, are compelled to do their

own work, and leave very much undone. Another consequence, too, is the high price of provisions, meat, flour, &c. Mutton is scarce. Sheep command £1 per head. A year or two since many thousands were annually boiled down, and as recently as last year they were sold at from 4s. 6d. to 7s. per head.

The above state of things has considerably unsettled the minds of many of our old and most respectable citizens, and not a few predict an exodus to the mother country. Already we have lost several. G. Elder, Esq., member for East Adelaide, has left us, regretted by all who knew him. He occupied a high position in the mercantile, political, and religious world. His general knowledge of all colonial affairs, his arduous patriotism, and his unblemished character as a Christian, as also his unremitting attention to his senatorial duties, made him, perhaps, the most valuable member of our legislature. His loss is the occasion of a general regret, and it will probably prove the occasion of new strife—for it has already inspired the friends of State-aid to religion to hope that old times dawn upon them. Many among them have begun to promise themselves the gratification of seeing their determination to renew their advocacy of this question succeeded by the perpetual discomfiture of their opponents, and the recognition of Episcopacy and Wesleyanism as the most Christian sects of the day. The Liberal and Anti-state-church feeling of the province, will, therefore, soon be newly-awakened; and, perhaps, such a mode of expression will be demanded as shall inflict upon State religion a more deadly blow than ever. It is even supposed by many Episcopalians among us that their bishop, who lately sailed for England, has the object in view of obtaining British senatorial influence to co-operate with their leaders here in forcing upon the colony a State-supported religion. This, if a fact, is the more remarkable, because while many of his nominal flock hold him as a preacher and pastor in almost contempt, they disapprove most sincerely of the principle he is so anxious to see re-established. They are men who are wise enough to discern inconsistency, and bold enough to declare their sentiments. In this respect, many Episcopalians in our province are far in advance of the Wesleyans. The fact is notorious to multitudes that some of the principal Wesleyan ministers will not hold any intercourse whatever with some members of the Legislative Council who for years attended their ministry simply, because their honourable and consistent men conscientiously and strenuously resisted the grant in aid to religion. Before the decision of this question, such gentlemen were proudly invited to the chair at Wesleyan meetings, but now they are excluded the pale of certain ministerial society, and held in utter contempt.

Our mining interests at the present moment are suffering greatly from the scarcity of labourers. So, also, are our agricultural operations. New lands are in every direction bought up, and preparations on a limited scale are made for subjecting them to culture; but many valuable sections are, at the same time, allowed to pass with a very inefficient attention, and many with neglect. Public works, too, of every kind, are still almost entirely abandoned. The roads occupy the chief attention of available labour. Our bridges, civic conveniences, and railroad to the port, remain in abeyance. The last question begins to command the notice and desires of the public generally, for land freight is become excessively expensive, owing to the scarcity both of bullock teams and teamsters.

Our noble river Murray has been subjected to one trial of steam, and found to warrant the sanguine expectation of becoming as valuable as it is renowned. Of course it will demand great outlay and mechanical appliance to render it at all times, and for many hundreds of miles, navigable; but this is not the age for yielding to comparative trifles. When labour is available, money will be found to employ an agency which shall open up the vast interior of our country, and make it the scene of agriculture, commerce, and civilization. It is a matter of deep regret that the interest felt among our population generally respecting the Murray is very inconsiderable; but the fact is, very few know the character of the river, and few are influenced sufficiently by that patriotism which prompts inquiry into the resources and distant prospects of their country. Perhaps it is wrong to expect very great things to be accomplished by the settlers of any colony during the first half century of its existence; for every one has so many things to make and to claim his attention that he has no time, beyond what is almost absolutely necessary to make himself a home and a living.

Adelaide has been greatly excited for the last two or three weeks by preparations to elect a successor to Mr. Elder for the west district of the city. The only candidates were a Mr. Fisher and a Mr. Stephens. The latter is manager of the South Australian Bank, and only just returned from a two years' leave of absence in England. The former is an attorney, and an old colonist. His character is respectable; his legal knowledge extensive; but his oratorical power is scarcely mediocre. In England he would be called a rigid Tory, and a High Churchman. He promises to do nothing in Council to revive the question of State aid to religion; but it is

apparent to everyone that he felt most unwilling to give this pledge, and that he couched this in terms that will impose no restraint upon his servility to the Episcopalian and Catholic. It is due to Mr. Stephens, and to the cause of liberalism, to state, that had Mr. Stephens returned a few weeks earlier, or had he evinced more anxiety to acquire a seat in Council, and have given publicity to his principles as a politician, he would have been returned. Mr. Fisher has met with sympathy from many persons because they thought him a gentleman who had been heretofore undeservedly neglected by Government. Mr. Stephens is the favourite with the public at large, excepting the Catholics. His principles accord with the spirit of the age. His talents are diversified, and his influence extensive. His non-success, however, will, in all probability, serve to reawaken public interest and sympathy for the cause of liberty in everything.

You will be glad to hear of the prosperous state of our revenue. The ordinary receipts for the last quarter exceed the expenditure by £27,000. The land fund during that period amounts to £265,984, and a very large proportion of this sum has been recently brought from the gold-mines.

The probability is, that even this large expenditure in purchasing new land in the province would have been very much greater if the price of gold at Melbourne had not latterly been so high. Adelaide diggers—the usual designation for all who belong to this province, and one which is universally accorded to them for their industry, sobriety, and inoffensiveness—go to the best market with their gold-dust, but they seek no home in Victoria. Multitudes hold their cash in one form or another, intending at some future time to return to us with their booty, and settle down in the country.

Our rains have visited us much earlier than usual. The country begins to look beautiful. Grass is becoming plentiful. The husbandman is all activity and hope. It is not certain, however, that this providential blessing will be the harbinger of reduction in the price of corn and meat, for while such vast multitudes of persons from every quarter of the globe pour into our sister colony, the price of corn cannot become lower, either there or in South Australia. Indeed, some persons apprehend a famine in Victoria, and should not this be actually realized, the provisions there will become fearfully limited before the next harvest. The progress of colonial agriculture cannot possibly keep up with the enormous increase of population in that province, and, indeed, until the digging population shall have become husbandmen, many sections will remain untilled and unprofitable.

It is hoped that in another quarter of a year, we shall have to welcome changes for the better, when it will be a pleasure to make such facts the substance of other communications.

W. N.

SALE OF THE SITE OF OLD VERAULAM.—The sale of this property took place on Friday. The lot, comprising the Verulam hills and the site of the Roman city, with the St. German's estate of 80 acres, was bought by Mr. Adams, banker, of Ware, for £6,550. The Earl of Verulam bought 10 acres of the land adjoining for £1,030. The sale realized £3,000 more than the sale of the same estate two years ago, when it was purchased by the Freehold Land Society, who it is thought have been induced to give it up in consequence of the disfranchisement of St. Albans.

LEEDS AND LILLE.—FRIENDSHIP WITH FRANCE.—Not long since letters of friendly sympathy were exchanged between considerable numbers of the inhabitants of Leeds and the Mayor of Lille, acting in behalf of his fellow-citizens. The object of those letters was to strengthen the bond of good feeling between the two nations of England and France, whose friendly relations are (and have recently been shown to be) so important to the interests of civilization. Monsieur C. Verly, an architect, a member of the Société Impériale des Sciences, and an honorary conservator of the Museum of Medals of the city of Lille, has taken advantage of the circumstance to engrave with his own hand a number of small tokens, which may serve to perpetuate the memory of the kindly interchange of letters between two places which have considerable mercantile relations, as well as political sympathies; and he has sent them to the Mayor of Leeds, with a letter expressive of his personal zeal for the perpetuation of amity between France and England. One of the tokens bears the inscription on one side—"A la ville de Leeds, la ville de Lille;" on the reverse, "Gage de Sympathie." And the other bears, on one side, "Leeds, 1853," and on the reverse, "Lille," with two hands clasped. The Mayor of Leeds has acknowledged this graceful method of expressing, and thereby confirming, friendship between two great towns and two great nations; and he has deposited the tokens, together with a number of medals commemorative of historical events in Lille, also sent by M. Verly, in the Museum of the Philosophical and Literary Society of Leeds.—*Leeds Mercury.*

In the second number of the *Rational Quarterly Review and Journal*, Robert Owen gives his Rappist experiences, in a letter addressed to her Majesty, of which the following is a fair specimen. He writes:—"I am now permitted by the spirit of your royal father to inform your Majesty that we have had two conferences, which to me have been most important and gratifying. In the first, held a short time before your Majesty's late happy confinement, I inquired, 'If I should inform the Queen

of this conference between us?' The reply was, 'Not yet; I will tell you when will be the best time to introduce it to my daughter.' In the second conference, held subsequently to your Majesty's recovery, I asked, 'Should I now introduce the subject to her Majesty?' The reply was, 'Just as you please.' I have waited some days since this interview, or rather conference, to learn that your Majesty's health was fully established; and I may now state that my questions on both occasions were numerous, and the answers beautiful, and quite in character with my knowledge of his Royal Highness when in his early life. These questions and answers I reserve for the present, except as I think it will gratify your Majesty to learn it, that his Royal Highness informed me that he was 'in the fourth sphere and circle, and that he was, as all the spirits were in his sphere, happy in a very high degree.' I may also add, that I asked, 'If these conferences were agreeable to him?' The reply was, 'Very much so.' And 'Would it be pleasant to come at a future time?' 'Yes.' In my first conference his Royal Highness was in company with President Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Franklin, with both of whose spirits I had been some time in conversation, when his Royal Highness joined them, precisely at the minute which on the previous day he had promised to be present. The three agreed in all their answers to the general public questions which I addressed to them."

and devoted to its King—a nation which, from this moment, regards the Duke and Duchess of Brabant as merged into one object of its love.

The religious ceremony then took place in the cathedral, the Cardinal-Archbishop of Maline, Primate of Belgium, officiating. The church was decorated and thronged. The ladies appeared in full court dress, and all the public characters, civil and military, in *grand tenue*. The Cardinal-Archbishop received the royal party on the threshold; his Eminence preceded them, to point out to the young married couple the places they were to occupy. The Duchess was pale and excited, and walked with a tottering gait. As soon as she and her spouse had placed themselves, the Cardinal pronounced the nuptial benediction. The organ then intoned the first notes of the marriage mass. At the elevation of the Host, all the soldiers in the church presented arms. The ceremony was finished by half-past 1; by 2 the royal bridal party had re-entered the palace amid the acclamations of the assembled crowds; the troops re-entered their barracks, and the spectators continued to parade the street gossiping over the spectacle they had witnessed.

Postscript.

Wednesday, August 24th.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

There is no news yet of the acceptance of the Vienna note by the Porte. The *Times* Paris correspondent says Divan is willing to accept the arrangement, and send an ambassador to St. Petersburg on condition that a pledge be given of the immediate evacuation of the Principalities. "In truth, the Sultan is placed in a very critical position. It is owing to the great exertions of the Turkish Government and the personal influence of the Sultan himself and one or two popular ministers, that troubles have not already broken out in Constantinople and elsewhere; but it is considered perilous to put the patience of the population to too severe a trial by taking no security for the withdrawal of the Russians."

A conspiracy has been discovered at Aleppo. The conspirators are Mussulman fanatics. Their object was to plunder and kill the Christian inhabitants of the towns. The ringleaders had been arrested and transported to Rhodes.

The Austrian Interventio at Constantinople has, in the presence of the Ministers of France, Great Britain, and Prussia, assured the Ottoman Ministers that Austria does not by any means intend to encroach upon the integrity and sovereignty of Turkey, and that, in case the Porte should not consider the military occupation of Servia to be opportune, Austria would at once give up the idea of so occupying Servia.

The Austrian Consul at Adrianople, who had left his post, has been ordered to return and resume his duties.

The following paragraph is significant:—*La Spezzia*, August 19.—The commander of the American frigate "Cumberland" has given a splendid ball on board his vessel to the Queen of Piedmont. The captain of the corvette "St. Louis," which had just arrived in the bay, was also present.

The result of the harvest in Russia is most favourable. Large purchases of grain and breadstuffs have been made at Taganrog and at Rostoff for exportation, and the transactions would have been still more extensive but for the want of vessels.

General Montholon, who shared the Emperor Napoleon's captivity at St. Helena, has died in Paris.

The *Giornale di Roma* announces the arrest of several Romans, who had emigrated, but had returned and landed clandestinely at Civita Vecchia, and also the arrest of their accomplices at Rome, who had given them asylum. From the way in which this news is given, it would appear that the persons who have been arrested are political agitators who have entered into a conspiracy with their partisans at Rome.

Lieut. Augustus C. Murray, R.N., has made the ascent of Mont Blanc, and published the account in the papers.

MARRIAGE OF THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF BRABANT.—The civil marriage ceremony took place on Monday morning. The poor young lady, who is only seventeen, looked very pale. The preliminary ceremonies at an end, the Burgomaster of Brussels asked the Duke of Brabant the usual question, "Do you agree to take for wife, &c.?" His Royal Highness bowed to the King, as if asking his consent, and then, in a subdued though audible tone, answered, "Yes, Master Burgomaster." To the similar question addressed to the Duchess, she replied, with a slight blush crossing her pale countenance, "Yes, Sir." The worthy Burgomaster then addressed the newly-married pair as follows:—

Monseigneur—Madame,—It is customary with civil officers of state to offer a compliment to those whose marriage he celebrates. Your Royal Highness will permit me so far to innovate on this custom, as to wish myself joy of having been the organ of the law on such a solemn occasion as the present. It would be presumption on my part to remind your Royal Highness of the duties of your station. The virtues of princes, like the light of heaven, illuminate all the earth, beaming and reflecting themselves on the whole of society. I confine myself to echoing the voice of our people. This union, which in a short time the church will bless and consecrate, strengthens and consolidates our independence for ever. It will prove, I am confident, as happy for yourselves as useful for a nation at once attached to its institutions

THE CALAMITY AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE, SYDENHAM.—A public meeting was held last evening at the Crystal Tower Tavern, Westow-hill, Norwood, to originate a subscription in aid of the bereaved widows and orphans of the men who perished by the late fatal accident at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham. The attendance consisted chiefly of workmen. The chair was occupied by Mr. Nunn. Mr. W. S. Northhouse said that the working-classes were the best protectors of their own interests, if they would only stand together. There were 2,000 workmen connected with the Crystal Palace; and if they would each abridge themselves of a pint of ale a week, they might raise a fund of £500 a-year for the relief of widows and orphans [cheers]. Messrs. Fox, Henderson, and Co., had most honourably given a weekly allowance to the widows and families of the sufferers [cheers]. He moved a series of resolutions, expressive of the sympathy of the meeting, and declaring that a subscription should be opened for the widows and families of the sufferers, that the smallest subscriptions should be received, and that a committee should be appointed to superintend the application of the sums raised; and that lists should be opened at several places named. He suggested that the funds should be ultimately paid into the hands of Messrs. Fox and Henderson as treasurers [cheers]. The resolution was carried.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.—The total number of deaths registered in London, which in the preceding week was 984, rose in the week that ended on Saturday to 1,053. Excluding from the comparison the corresponding week of 1849, in which cholera raised the mortality from all causes to 2,456, it appears that the result of last week does not differ materially from the average as corrected for increase of population. Summer cholera and diarrhoea exhibit a small decrease in the present as compared with the previous return. The deaths ascribed to diarrhoea are 126, of which 115 occurred amongst children. The tender age of nearly all the sufferers, 97 of them not having completed their first year, is sufficient to dispel the popular error that the use of fruit is the exciting cause. Small-pox was fatal in only 5 cases, measles in 13, scarletina in 27, hooping-cough in 28, ague in one, typhus in 48.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO DUBLIN.—Great preparations are being made in Dublin for the Royal visit. The city is at present almost suffering from an excess of population. Standing room is not to be had at any price in the hotels, and lodgings of the humblest pretensions to respectability are at a high premium. All public buildings are to be illuminated.

A GREAT COMET is visible in the west, about 15 degrees above the horizon, at from 8.30 p.m., moving to the east; the conical tail large, well defined with a in Ursa Major and the Polar Star. The nucleus is well defined. It is nearly equal to that which appeared in September, October, and November, 1811.

THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN, declined by Lord Lonsdale, has been accepted by Mr. Benson, who occupies it in lieu of General Anson, resigned.

THE NATIONAL FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY has just purchased another estate of 130 acres, at Cardiff.

WRECK OF THE EMIGRANT SHIP "SACRAMENTO."—The Emigration Commissioners have just received intelligence of the total wreck of the ship "Sacramento," Captain Holmes, which was chartered by Government for the conveyance of 220 emigrants to Australia. The unfortunate disaster took place within a few hours of the ship reaching her destination. Although her numerous freight of passengers was exposed to much peril and suffering, the lives of all were preserved, and some £60,000 of specie which was on board was saved from the wreck. The ship left London about the latter end of last December, bound for Port Phillip. The voyage was fair till the 26th of April.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24. Every article held with increasing firmness, so that we expect over Monday's prices will be realized for Wheat and Flour.

ARRIVALS THIS WEEK:		
ENGLISH.	IRISH.	FOREIGN.
qrs.	qrs.	qrs.
Wheat.... 660	—	6,450
Barley....	—	420
Oats.... 70	2,480	2,000
Flour 1,070 sacks.	—	300 sacks. 6,350 barrels.

TO ADVERTISERS.

The advertisement duty having been repealed, we shall in future charge according to the space occupied; viz., 6d. per line up to six lines, and 8d. per line beyond six lines. That is to say,—

	s. d.
1 line Advertisement.....	1 0
2 ditto	1 0
3 ditto	1 6
4 ditto	2 0
5 ditto	2 6
6 ditto	3 0

The Nonconformist is a family journal, and as such, affords an excellent medium for advertisements of Assurance Companies, Schools, Philanthropic and Religious Societies, Books, Situations and Tradesmen's announcements, &c. Tradesmen, especially, have now an unequalled and cheap mode of communicating with the public, and publishers at a charge of 1s. 6d. or 2s. (scarcely more than the late duty), may secure that prominent announcement of every separate publication, which is so much valued.

For the convenience of country friends, we may state, that on the average, eight words are contained in a line, AND THAT ADVERTISEMENTS MUST BE PAID FOR IN ADVANCE.

The Terms of Subscription are (payment in advance) 26s. per annum, 13s. for the half-year, and 6s. 6d. per quarter.

All communications RELATING TO ADVERTISEMENTS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE PAPER, should be addressed to Mr. William Freeman, Publisher, 69, Fleet-street, London, to whom POST-OFFICE ORDERS must be made payable at the General Post-office.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 24, 1853.

SUMMARY.

PARLIAMENT was prorogued on Saturday, with that decorous but not imposing ceremonial known as the delivery of the Royal speech by commission. Probably as many of "my lords and gentlemen" as had not already entered upon the recess, attended; and certainly the mutual congratulations on breaking-up were sincere. The speech, commencing with, "We are commanded," instead of the usual sovereign "I," modestly set forth some achievements and topics which would have borne to be more loudly trumpeted; and was disfigured by none of those apologies for non-performance which are always inartistic, however inevitable.

On the subject of nearly every one of the paragraphs constituting the official summary of the session, we have spoken, with more or less brevity, in one or other of our leading articles. The topic on which we have yet to remark—and to which we hope often and long to be able to return—is that of "the prosperity which pervades the great trading and producing classes." We suppose the termination of the Kidderminster strike may be taken as the accession to the general contentment of an unfortunately exceptional class. That the operatives have returned to their labour without any material concession on the part of the employers, is rather, we suspect, a proof that the former were in error, than that the latter are resolutely hard-hearted. A lower rate of wages, or longer hours of labour, than the general condition of the trade would justify, could scarcely have been sustained against the abstention of the whole operative class. The Merthyr affair shows on how slight a basis of misapprehension an industrial revolt may proceed. It shows, too, how much it is in the power of employers to effect by frank communication with their workpeople—how great, therefore, the obligation to exercise that power. All who have given any attention to the history of strikes, agree that they are not always to be avoided—that they are very rarely productive of aught but misery—and that a perfect intelligence between the representatives of capital and industry, a sort of "prices-current" of material and labour, would almost infallibly prevent their recurrence. This is just that division of the great labour question which is now urgent for settlement; and surely that on which a settlement could be most easily effected.

The Convocation of the Province of Canterbury has reappeared for an hour or two—or rather, has attempted to reappear, and suffered extinction in the attempt. Prorogued till the 18th of August, in the expectation that on that day Parliament would have been in a state of suspended animation, Convocation found itself

with a three days' lease of life in virtue of an accident. Some of the High Church members of that body seized with undignified fanaticism upon the chance of demonstrating the latent vitality of the ecclesiastical Commons. The Archbishop sacrificed his habitual courtesy to his sense of the dilemma—kept his reverend brethren fretting and fuming in the Jerusalem Chamber through a summer's day—and then adjourned them to an uncertain hour on the 10th of November. The Convocation revivalists would consult the advancement of their object by abstaining from these ridiculous displays. The world cannot even respect their earnestness, if they compel laughter by want of self-respect.

Three elections have come off within the week. Stamford has quietly substituted a member for a nominee of the reigning house,—Lord Cecil, vice Mr. Herries, once more retiring from public life. Clitheroe has returned, without its usual electioneering accompaniments, Mr. Starkie, Liberal-Conservative, over Mr. J. Peel, Liberal-Conservative plus the ballot. At Cork, Mr. Beamish has succeeded to Mr. Serjeant Murphy—an event of no political consequence. At Dungarvon, we observe, Mr. F. Maguire, who appears to have resigned on a point of honour, is threatened with serious opposition from the very party of whose members he is one of the most talented.

The "curiosities of justice" are this week numerous, and range from the highest to the most recently created of judicial institutions. Thus, the House of Lords has decided, in the case of the Earl of Bridgewater's will, against the unanimous opinion of the judges, that money bequeathed on the condition that the legatee obtain an honour only in the gift of the Crown, is a bequest for an immoral purpose, and therefore invalid. In the Civil Courts, damages to the amount of £7,300 have been awarded to the sufferers by the Bolton accident on the Great Northern Railway. The Middlesex Grand Jury have found a true bill against the Right Hon. W. Beresford, and ten others, for conspiring to procure the election by unlawful means of a member of Parliament for Derby; to answer which indictment at the next sessions, bail has been given by the defendants. And in the Westminster County Court, the unhappy quarrel between the Hon. Mrs. Norton and her husband, the police-magistrate, has been re-opened, to the scandal of the good society in which both parties move; and the suggestion of many thoughts to such as are concerned for society at large—the suggestion, for instance, of Solomon's preference of a quiet morsel to stalled oxen with strife.

In virtue, perhaps, of that mysterious law which supplies journalists with topics of high though non-political interest, so soon as Parliament has risen, we have Lieut. Maury, of the United States navy, lecturing in our great mercantile cities on a scheme, initiated by the Government at Washington, for enlarging, authenticating, and giving universal application to, our knowledge of ocean paths;—at once a simple and magnificent proposal of cosmopolitan co-operation for cosmopolitan ends. Of much less importance, certainly, yet worthy of notice if only as characteristic of the people from whom it comes, we have from Paris a new method of illumination—said to be more than as much better than gas, as gas is better than the oil lamps and candles that used to celebrate our victories and intensify our political enthusiasms. More readily to be appreciated than either, by us London dwellers, is the assurance that the cattle market at Copenhagen-fields will be opened by Christmas, 1854; and that ere then railway trains will be running under the New-road, from King's-cross to the great Paddington terminus!

Four distinguished men who were familiar with the ocean long ere the paddle-wheel or screw had begun to furrow its changeless surface—and were conspicuous in this world of London a quarter of a century before its streets were lit with gas, or its first railway was projected—have just been drawn, by the invisible hand, behind the curtain that separates the living from the dead. Sir Frederick Adams, who was with Abercrombie in Egypt—Lord Saltoun, who saw Moore die at Corunna—Admiral Cockburn, the hero of the unhappy Potomac expedition, and of many less buccaneering exploits—Mr. Bransby Cooper, an army surgeon in the Peninsular war, and one of the most celebrated of operators—have all died within three days of each other. The gene-

ration which even their youthful services illustrated, must be well-nigh extinct; and, perhaps, some of the present may sigh that there is now but narrow room for winning distinction like theirs. Let such be assured that every age brings its special work, and that to every work is allotted an appropriate reward. And the latest of our poets sings:

"—Whether crowned or crownless, when I fall,
It matters not, so that God's work is done.
I've learned to prize the quiet lightning deed
Not the applauding thunder at its heels."

WEEKLY PARLIAMENTARY NOTES.

THE SESSION CLOSED.

RELEASED at last from the labours of a protracted Session, we, this day, conclude these "Notes," twice or thrice intermitted, of late, owing to the heavy strain of Parliamentary business. Rejoicing in our temporary freedom, we are more inclined to look forward, than to look back—and nothing but a sense of duty to our readers would prevail upon us to revert, even in thought, to the proceedings of the House of Commons. There are times when the tradesman strives above all things to forget his shop—and times there are when the wearied M.P. is glad to banish politics from his mind, and dwell on anything in preference to the "sayings and doings" of his Parliamentary associates. And if ever he may be excused for wishing to be oblivious of the New Palace at Westminster, it is at the close of such a Session as that just terminated—the unprecedented length of which, no less than the uncommon amount of the business transacted, has left every diligent member fairly exhausted.

Nothing spicy have we to relate—no picturesque scenes to exhibit—no oratorical feats to describe—no racy anecdotes to tell. These things belong to the heart of a session. Its last few days are those of jaded politicians whose animal spirits are all required for the work remaining to be done, and who go through what must be completed with mechanical solemnity. Have you seen a stud of high-mettled racers leave the course after a three-mile heat, and a close contest? Have you marked the subdued and drooping air of the poor over-worked brutes—as if they had parted with more life than they could spare, and had scarcely reserved enough to take them back to their stables? If so, you have seen a very apt, though not very dignified, type of our wearied senators just prior to the prorogation of Parliament. To be sure, the last week has been a comparatively easy one—short sittings and a two days' interval of adjournment. But not even on Tuesday se'nnight, when Lord John Russell made his revelations of what was already well known respecting Russia; and Mr. Layard poured out his stores of information, and Mr. Cobden denounced a war for the preservation of Mahomedanism in Europe, and Lord Palmerston drew a glowing picture of a regenerated Turkey—no, not even then was there more than an occasional and feeble gleam of enthusiasm. The House scarcely pricked up its ears. The Treasury bench was lined with slumberers. The whips were "a' a noddin." The Chancellor of the Exchequer, with uncovered head, slept peacefully, and the President of the Board of Works leaned his great white hat against Mr. Gladstone's head.

Of course, to men in this mood, the formalities of a prorogation, at which it was known the Queen would not be present, was no very attractive pageant. For our own part, we confess, we did not stay to witness it, and, therefore, cannot pretend to describe the actual scene. But, we believe, it closely resembled in stiffness and in dulness those occasions on which the House of Commons is summoned to hear the Royal assent given by commission to bills waiting that ceremony only to become the law of the land. The woolsack is occupied by three or more commissioners, as the case may be, clothed in scarlet robes, trimmed with ermine, and wearing cocked hats. The Speaker stands at the bar backed by a company of members. At a table about midway between them stands a clerk, in black gown and grey wig, to read the Royal commission. Opposite to him stands another clerk, to declare aloud, as each bill is mentioned, after having formally bowed to the Commissioners and the Speaker, "*La reine le rent.*" On the Lords' crimson benches may be seen a peer or two, and, perhaps, a half-a-dozen ladies. The gorgeous House is nearly empty. Scarcely a syllable is



NON S�N NON VIT

uttered in tones loud enough to be heard, save the perpetually running "*La reine le vent.*" At length the ceremony is concluded. The Speaker bows and goes his way. The Commissioners acknowledge his obeisance by lifting their cocked hats, and all is over. The prorogation, we believe, differs from the above ceremony only in the reading of the Queen's Speech.

And now the Session is over. We have entered upon no critical review of it in this place—criticism having formed no part of the design of these "Notes." But in conclusion, we may briefly and emphatically express our belief that the country has rarely before seen a Parliamentary session, the legislative fruits of which have been more abundant, more various, or more beneficial. The future will, no doubt, develop the full value of those important reforms which have taken upwards of nine months to carry through both Houses of Parliament.

POLITICAL RESULTS OF THE SESSION.

IT is quite impossible to deny—and we, certainly, have no motive for wishing to deny—that the political results of the Parliamentary session, another portion of whose labours we have elsewhere summed up, are large, important, and, on the whole, creditable and auspicious. Were it otherwise, they would at least bear a strange and melancholy disproportion to the amount of labour bestowed on their production. For it is agreed by all concerned in the discharge of legislative business,—members, journalists, and doorkeepers,—that never since that stormful and almost revolutionary time when the Reform Bill was divided upon at every clause by daylight, and the Commons threatened a permanent sitting, were so many and such toilsome hours kept within the walls of St. Stephen's. To those who have participated in, or closely watched, these vigils, it seems but an inadequate record of their wearisome prolongation to say, that since November, 1852, the House of Commons has sat 159 days, and 1,152 hours; 125 of these hours being past the noon of night.

First in order, and of greatest apparent magnitude—though, in truth, only a formality, and not without factious significance—is the ratification of the Free-trade policy by the vote of November the 26th. The really primary question of the session was a financial one,—and its grandest results are also financial. Mr. Disraeli's exposition of his budget, and the debates that ensued thereon, stamped the character of the new House of Commons. Cleverly designed to secure general, if not unanimous acceptance, it only failed of that success by a compulsory blunder in detail. A hostile majority of 19 rejected the budget and destroyed the minister; but the financier was neither dishonoured nor unavenged. He had supplied to his successor a test of the disposition of the House, and a warning of the danger of uncongenial associations. It is to the praise of Mr. Gladstone's statesmanship that he accepted the principles initiated by Mr. Disraeli, and refused, unlike him, to stoop his better judgment to the prejudices of colleagues. The extension of the tax on successions to real property, the revision of the tariff, the abolition of the soap duty, and the amendment of the stamp laws, were all in harmony with the fiscal scheme of 1852; and by its merits in excess over the merits of that, compensated for the failure to distinguish between precarious and permanent incomes when re-enacting the income-tax. The session of 1852-3 is not singular in having produced two budgets; but may boast, we believe, the unparalleled distinction of revealing to the country the high financial abilities of two rival politicians, and of having extorted from both substantial agreement in the principles of a new financial policy.

The India Bill suggests an almost exactly opposite reflection—namely, that we have not yet got rid of an order of politicians whose abilities are notoriously disproportionate to their station, and whose function is obviously that of obstruction and mismanagement. The presence of Sir Charles Wood in the Coalition Cabinet, is a proof that though government by party may have temporarily given way, government by family connexions still survives. And the department of Administration over which Sir Charles presides, requiring eminent ability and courage, is precisely that in which the obstinacy of prejudice, the *vis inertia* of indolence, and the influence of political connexions, have overcome all the forces

that intellect, knowledge, and humanity, could bring to bear. To multiplied testimonies of misgovernment on the part of the East India Company—to appeals from residents in and natives of Calcutta and Madras—to the remonstrances of Mr. Disraeli on the one hand, and Mr. Bright on the other—even to the very natural, and theretofore unbroken rule, that committees of inquiry complete their work before legislation be commenced—the unauthenticated dictum of a Governor-General, and the still more suspicious opinion of the Court of Directors, were peremptorily, and, strange to say, successfully, opposed. For four or five months, the ears of Parliament and people were filled with complaints of Indian wretchedness, from a false political system. No counter case was presented, and no remedies were even professed to be offered. "Legislation without delay—under pain of mysterious consequences,"—was the language of Ministers; and the word of command was obeyed. With modifications of detail from which no one pretends to expect any vastly beneficial consequences, India was again made over to Leadenhall-street. Even the appended clause by which a monopoly more cruel than our corn-laws, and unsupported even by the pretence of protection to native industry, was abolished,—the Lords deleted, and Ministers refused to renew. The session of 1853 continues the act of 1853; and thereby proclaims to the world that in twenty years England has neither escaped from the dominion of little souls, nor awoke to the responsibility of imperial possessions.

We scarcely know whether to the Colonial or Home Office we owe the measure for the partial substitution of convict servitude at home for convict transportation to the colonies, or whether we should divide between those departments the credit and discredit of a scheme which it would have been comparatively easy to have rendered of first-rate importance. Nor can we accurately apportion between the Treasury Office and the Board of Trade, the praise due for such administrative and modest but important changes as the consolidation and amendment of Customs regulations. So, again, between the Lord Chancellor and his legal assistants, the honour of carrying, after thirty-seven years of bitter complaints and ineffectual attempts, the Charitable Trusts Bill, with the honour of initiating the codification of our statute-law—and the dishonour of rejecting the Irish land bills—must be ignorantly divided. In the latter, as in the case of the fifth rejected Jewish Relief Bill, we presume the whole Ministry must be held awanting in the resolution requisite to overcome either the prejudices or the indolence of the upper House.

It can scarcely be reckoned among the creditable results of the session, nor as honourable to the character of the House, that no small proportion of the 1,152 hours have been consumed in discussions touching its own constitution; and that the strength of members has also been severely tried by investigations into the delinquencies of their own body. In this respect the session of 1852-3 must rank with that of ten years since; but not, we hope, without more redeeming issues. Now, as then, disclosures of gross electoral corruption have been made; and now, as then, a great show of reciprocal indignation. There let the parallel terminate. Let it be understood that next year we set about in earnest the purification of a system whose rottenness must else become contagious and fatal. Let us reflect, as often as the prosperous activity of liberated commerce will allow, or the little luxuries of a revised tariff suggest, political reflections, that the security and supplement of free-trade and fiscal equity can alone be found in the universal enjoyment and patriotic exercise of the Parliamentary franchise. Then we shall go to the work of 1854, with the resolution to permit no further postponements, and to accept no more imperfect finalities.

THE TEMPLE OF JANUS CLOSED.

In her speech at the prorogation on Saturday, the Queen, through her Commissioners, was able to congratulate Parliament on "the tranquillity which prevails throughout her dominions." Little as this country knows practically of the horrors and distresses of war, it is remarkable that such felicitation can rarely be indulged in. England is, for the moment, at peace with all the world. Her last "enemy"—his Majesty of the golden

foot—has been starved into submission, and the terms of peace with Burmah have been finally settled. We congratulate ourselves upon the pacific tendencies of the English people, but on looking back upon our intermittent wars in India, our conflicts with China and Burmah, and our protracted struggles in Kafirland—in almost every instance resulting from the unjust demands or insolence of British officials, subsequently sustained by the voice of the country—there is but little reason for the boast, and we are not altogether in a position to lecture Russia on her aggressive tendencies. Still it is as gratifying as it is novel to be able to rejoice that the temple of Janus is now closed—for we may, perhaps, assume, that no ambitious and irresponsible official throughout our vast dominions has yet plunged us into a new war. The moment is favourable for casting our eyes around the horizon, and if the prospect is not so bright as could be wished, it is well to know the truth and prepare for future storms.

The cloud in the East, though less menacing than it once was, still lours on the horizon. Assuming that the Porte will accept the Vienna note, and the Russian troops withdraw from the Principalities, the question may at any time be re-opened in a more menacing shape. The Czar has now broken faith with Europe, and finds the other Powers more anxious to satisfy his imperious demands than, by firm and united counsels, to show him the hopelessness of his daring schemes. He may pause, but will scarcely abandon his traditional policy, well knowing that Austria cannot afford to throw away his alliance, but will strain every nerve to prevent a European conflagration, in which the Hapsburg dynasty would probably be consumed. Russia can afford to wait, but never relinquishes her aims. While the other nations of Europe are bent upon the maintenance of their present position, the eyes of Russia ever wander beyond her own extensive boundaries—her diplomacy maintains incessant activity in every Court; her intrigues are active in every neighbouring country. While, therefore, Turkey is reduced to the lowest state of weakness by internal dissensions and financial embarrassments, her two outside provinces demoralized by Russian agents, the Greek Church encouraged to assert unfounded claims, and Servia ready to burst out into rebellion, it is manifest that the *status quo* cannot long be maintained, and that "the integrity of the Ottoman Empire" is a mere figment of politicians. Next year the boyards of Moldavia and Wallachia may be incited to insurrection against the Sultan, and thus afford the Czar a *legal* pretext for again occupying those provinces.

If constitutional government prevailed throughout Western Europe, there would be little reason to fear the overweening pretensions of Russia. But Austria, Prussia, and perhaps France, have more to fear from the discontent of their mis-governed subjects than from the aggressions of the Czar, while England, single-handed, can offer but little obstacle to the encroachments of a Power, whose strength lies in her military resources, and whose opportunities of aggression are so numerous and available.

In spite, therefore, of the peaceful tendencies of the English people, the cordial understanding with France, and the unexampled activity of our commercial enterprise throughout the globe, it is to be feared that the temple of Janus will not long remain closed. The huge standing armaments maintained in every continental country, the unsettled relations of sovereign and people, and the ceaseless activity of Russian ambition, point to a not distant explosion in Europe, which may baffle the pacific policy of our statesmen, and render the position of this country one of unexampled difficulty and peril. May the events of the coming time be overruled for the extension of freedom, and the final breaking up of those great military organizations which ever endanger the peace of the world, and impede the progress of civilization and international amity!

LEGISLATION BY MINUTES OF COUNCIL.

IN April last, Lord John Russell introduced his Bill for extending Education in municipal towns by means of borough rates. Simultaneously a new minute was issued by the Committee of Council, which was universally regarded as supplementary to the Bill. No opportunity was afforded in Parliament for the discussion either of the Bill or minute, and an increased grant of

£100,000 was made without one word of explanation being offered as to the mode of its application. Appeals were successively made to various ministers to suspend the minute until the Bill had become law, and the President of the Council held out the prospect that this course would be pursued. The Bill has been withdrawn, and Lord John Russell promises to bring it forward next session. But without waiting that event, the noble lord, in reply to Mr. Pellatt, has at the last moment announced that that portion of the minute which applies to boroughs where no Town Council exists is to be at once carried into effect.

To our minds this decision has the appearance of sharp practice, unworthy of the high character of Cabinet Ministers, and indicative of a contempt for that fair discussion to which every act of the Executive should be subject. Lord John has not carried his Bill, but by means of the edict of an anomalous and unconstitutional body, he is enabled, to a great extent, to do without the sanction of Parliament. That portion of the minute of April last at once to have the force of law is a very essential part of the scheme propounded by Sir J. K. Shuttleworth, which is to absorb voluntary effort, and cost the country between two and three millions per annum. If there be any truth in the official returns of the census and the statements of Lord John Russell and other Ministers, there can be no need for this indecent haste. The country is doing its own work. And, besides, there are two measures postponed till next session, expressly intended to meet the case of the children of the dangerous and pauper classes, in the shape of a provision for reformatory and industrial schools.

This surreptitious mode of carrying out schemes of political policy is highly dangerous, and may be extended to other questions besides that of education. If Parliament sanctions a measure for doing by State agency what the people can do and are doing for themselves, we must submit. There is at all events opportunity for discussion and protest. But the Committee of Council in respect to education is superseding the functions of Parliament, and unless something is done to curb or define this *imperium in imperio*, it may prove dangerous to the public welfare.

THE TURK, THE GREEK, AND THE SCLAVE.

THEIR HISTORICAL RELATIONS.

THE battle of Pultowa (1709)—the victory of Peter the Great over Charles the Twelfth of Sweden—marks the entrance of Russia into the comity of great European powers. The vanquished Swede took refuge at Bender—a Turkish city—and immediately set about inducing his protectors to make war upon Russia, at once to recover some of the losses sustained by the Peace of Carlowitz (1699)—the era of Ottoman decline—and to check the progress of their hitherto unregarded foe. Charles succeeded, and thus brought advantages to the Porte, though none to himself: his headlong ambition would be content with nothing less than absolute ruin. It was in 1710 that war was declared. In the spring of the next year, the Czar Peter invaded Moldavia, but was surrounded by a superior force, and compelled to a treaty which restored to the Turks the fortress of Azoff, with its subjacent territory and dependencies. Encouraged by this success, the Porte turned, three years after, upon Vienna, and recovered the Morea. This, however, provoked Austria and her allies again to enter the field—brought Prince Eugene again upon the Danube—and lost to the Turks the great battle of Peterwardein, and the cities of Temeswar and Belgrade. The treaty of Passarowitz (1718) followed these exploits. Its provisions indicate that the Turks struggled hard, and were still reckoned formidable. The Porte retained the Morea, and Austria gained only the soil actually occupied by her armies.

Thus, slowly and stubbornly, declined the crescent before the powers of Southern and Central Europe. Nor did it either rapidly or with less of obstinacy yield to the pretensions of Russia. The Czarina Anne had succeeded to the feeble soul which legitimacy had placed on the throne of Peter. Acting, it is believed, on the political testament of the Father of his Country, the Czarina watched a favourable opportunity for making war upon Turkey, and found it in the embroilment of the latter with the Persian Nadir Shah. The Russian commanders opened the war (1736) with great spirit. Count Lacy made himself

master of Azoff, and Marshal Munich penetrated, through the formidable lines of Perekop, into the Crimea. The Emperor of Austria, after a feigned attempt at mediation, joined the Russians, in order to share their anticipated spoils. His rapacity was severely punished. His armies, no longer headed by Eugene, yielded before the aroused valour of the Turk, were driven successively from Wallachia and Servia, lost the city of Orsova, and were hemmed into Belgrade, where a general peace was made (1739). Austria surrendered nearly all that she had gained by the treaty of Passarowitz; and Russia—though her commanders had conquered at Choczim, and overrun Moldavia—gained little but the acknowledgment of the Czarina's title to the dignity of Empress of All the Russias.

The value of this titular concession can only be appreciated by reference to a fact of much greater antiquity.—We have seen that the Russians, like the Turks, were of Oriental extraction—that they were first in possession of European soil—and that they derived from the Constantinople of the Greeks a religion which softened their barbarism and enlarged their ideas, but taught them to regard as infidel dogs, the enemy of God and man, their Mahometan Asiatic brethren. It was in this spirit they heard of the fall of Constantinople; and it was in this spirit the greatest of their ancient monarchs, Ivan, took Sophia, a Greek princess, to his throne and bed—at the same time adopting as the standard of Russia the two-headed eagle, when, by a strange vicissitude of fortune, that ancient ensign of the Eastern Empire had been replaced by the more ancient crescent—the symbol of Pagan Byzantium. In the third generation from Ivan, the old stock of Rurik ceased to bud or blossom; but the House of Romanoff inherited with the throne, the dynastic and popular sympathies and pretensions. Peter was rewarded by his Senate for the overthrow of Charles the Twelfth, with the title of Emperor; but the Porte, regarding itself alone, by right of conquest, as head of the Eastern Roman Empire, ignored the assumption, until compelled to its acknowledgment by the Empress Anne. And, probably, the concession was felt on both sides as a more ominous sign of changing fortune than would have been the transference of hard-fought territory.—“What's in a name?” is the query only of youthful sentimentalism or of profound philosophy. Statesmen know that the world is ruled by words;—for though ideas are stronger than all material forces, words are the usurping servants of thought.

The intestine war—or armed confederacies—which preceded the partition of Poland, roused either the generosity or the resentment of the Turks. The latter were induced by the diplomatists of France—who had constituted herself, since the peace of Carlowitz, the protector and counsel of the Porte—the Turks were induced to issue a manifesto against the designs of Russia upon Poland; and to follow the declaration by open rupture (December, 1768). The Russians immediately occupied Poland—attacked the Turks along their whole frontier—sent naval squadrons into the Black Sea and the Archipelago—excited the Greek subjects of the Porte to rebellion—and even stimulated the Pasha of Egypt to revolt. Catherine relied upon the military discipline introduced by her great predecessor, against the vast numerical preponderance of the Turks, and did not rely in vain. The latter were cut off by an accident, and the Principalities consequently surrendered. The Danube was crossed by General Romanoff, and the great fortresses of Bessarabia, Ismail and Bender, were carried. Admiral Spiritoff vanquished the Ottoman fleet at Scio—where the ships of both commanders were blown into the air—and Constantinople, then but feebly defended by the Dardanelles, lay at the mercy of a naval power victorious on both sides. The lines at Perekop were again forced, the Crimea conquered, and the Tartars induced to renounce their allegiance to the Porte. But by these vast efforts Russia exhausted herself; and the Courts of Vienna and Berlin, now thoroughly alarmed at the progress of their great rival, interfered to procure a peace more favourable to the Turks than they could enforce. Only by a share in the partition of Poland were those powers deterred from making common cause with Turkey for the defence of the right bank of the Danube. Over a whole year (1772) were negotiations protracted by the obstinacy of the Turks. With the next year, hostilities were renewed, and without advantage to Russia. The campaign of 1774, however, was decisive. The new Sultan, Abdul Hammed, raised an army of 300,000 men—greatly superior to the Russians in point of numbers—but headed by

generals of so little skill that their communication between the camp at Schumla and the magazines at Varna were cut off; and so little inspired with the enthusiasm of patriotism or valour, that the defeated general could not keep them together. A treaty was, therefore, agreed to in the Russian camp at Kainardji; Turkey recovered Moldavia, Wallachia, and Bessarabia, and certain islands in the Archipelago; but the Tartars of the Crimea were declared independent, while its principal fortresses, with the city and territory of Azoff, were given up to Russia—who also obtained important mercantile privileges,—and, in short, advanced her frontier to the River Bug.

“This,”—remarks a writer whom we have already quoted, and whose summary may relieve us from details that would exceed our space:—

“This was the first advancement of the boundaries of Russia to the south. and we may convey an intelligible idea of the system commenced on this occasion, by merely enumerating the stages of its progress from those days to the present. Between the channels of the Dnieper and the Danube, three smaller streams fall in parallel directions into the waters of the Euxine—the Bug, the Dniester, and the Pruth. In the time of Peter, the Russian frontier had been formed by the Dnieper; in 1774, it was carried, as we have said, to the Bug; in 1792, to the Dniester; in 1812, to the Pruth; and in 1829, the line was made to include the mouths of the Danube. These advances represent, of course, respectively grave contests and serious cost. In 1784, Catherine had so far ventured on the rights of the strongest, as to annex the Crimea to her dominion, by the simple authority of an imperial ukase. But by her menacing parades in these regions, and by her haughty inscription ‘The route to Byzantium’—over one of the gates of Kherson, she at length exasperated the still ferocious Ottomans beyond the bounds of patience,—and war was again declared by the Porte. The campaigns of Potemkin and Suvarrow—the capture of Oczakoff—and the storm of Ismail, followed. The results we have already named.

In point of fact, the last wars had conclusively established both the gigantic strength of Russia, and the uses to which it would probably be applied. Catherine did not condescend to disguise her ambition or her hopes. She openly discussed the project of restoring a Greek Empire at Constantinople for the benefit of her successors; and revived the auspicious name of Constantine in a prince of her royal house. Nor, although the fate of Poland had alarmed the statesmen of Europe, was it by any means certain that any peremptory arbitration could at this time have been interposed between Russia and her prey. In 1791, Pitt had found himself totally unsupported in his proposition to equip a squadron of observation for the Dardanelles: the functions of France, the old and, nominally at least, the natural ally of the Porte, became entirely suspended; and the complicity and spoils of Polish dismemberment furnished the Northern Courts with irresistible temptations. Already, in fact, had the partition of Turkey been deliberately canvassed as a preferable alternative to its absorption; and although subsequent events showed that the Ottomans were by no means so defenceless as they were presumed to be, it may be doubted whether they would not at this time have been thrown wholly for support on their own fanatical courage. Even ten years earlier, France, acting always as the confidential friend of Turkey, had intimated to the Divan, that in any future war it would probably be in vain to look to Europe for diversion or aid; and the inclinations of Austria to participate rather in the plunder than in the prevention of the deed, were sufficiently known. Other scenes, however, were now at hand. In the midst of these ambitious conspiracies, the French Revolution burst upon the world, and by absorbing all things in its vortex, relieved the Porte from the immensity of peril.”

The romantic ambition of the French Directory threw Turkey more completely into the arms of England. Yet, as if to spoil the dramatic unity of the history, we find Constantinople defended, in 1807, by French artillery officers against an English fleet. This, however, was but an episode. A few months later, and Napoleon was planning with Alexander—upon the raft at Tilsit—the partition of the Ottoman Empire between them; and a British fleet occupied the Bosphorus for the protection of Constantinople. The rupture between France and Russia on the death of Paul had exposed Turkey to the invasion from which she was only delivered by the treaty of 1806, ceding the provinces north of the Pruth. And again—amidst the dreadful scenes of massacre that attended, as well as numerous assassinations, the accession of Mahmoud—Russian armies were fiercely encountered by the Turks on the banks of the Danube; and French invasion of Russia serving as a happy diversion of Alexander's forces from the Turkish capital. By the mediation of England, a peace was effected (May, 1812), by which, as already mentioned, the whole of Bessarabia, with part of Moldavia, were ceded to Russia.

Eight years of international peace followed—but in the early part of that period the Porte was engaged in the reduction of revolted pashalics to obedience; and at its end, the Greek war of independence broke out. Bloody and barbarous, on both sides, was the struggle. By neither was there any respect shown to honour or humanity. Sanguinary battles were followed by still more sanguinary massacres. All Christian powers sympathized with the Greeks, yet were reluctant to interfere between such ferocious combatants. Per-

haps it was the evident design of Russia to annex the Greek States, and the piratical habits of the latter, rather than considerations of sentiment, that at length resolved England and France to interpose. The result is well known. The independent kingdom of Greece was created, and its existence guaranteed, by the Great Powers.

That settlement was attended, however, by the unfortunate affair of Navarino; which threatened to issue in "a holy war" of Mahometanism against all Christian powers in Europe and Asia. But the crusade was reduced to a renewal of war between Turkey and Russia; and the ultimate consequences to the former were signally disastrous. In the first and second campaigns, the Turks fought with a ferocious valour, and compelled the Russians to retreat with great loss. But in 1829, the Balkan mountains—the natural entrenchments of Turkey Proper—were crossed—Adrianople, its ancient European capital, taken—and the heavy penalties of diminished territory, maritime concessions, and a pecuniary ransom, were inflicted on the Porte.

Here the historical relations of the Turk, the Greek, and the Slave may be said to have ceased. The wars of 1832 and 1840—the one originating in the revolt of the powerful Egyptian pasha; the other, in different interpretations of the settlement then made—were but affairs of internal policy, magnified by the peculiar position of the Porte into matters of European interest. And the concessions obtained by Russia in 1848-9, were but ratifications of the Protectorate conceded by the treaty of Jassy (1772). We are now, therefore, within another division of the subject; and may quit this historical resumé, with the remark that it presents the Turks, on the whole, in no unfavourable light—neither the strength nor generosity of their national character, their capacity for civilization, nor their superiority to its enfeebled influences, suffering by comparison with either of the races to whom they are most closely related.

THE VALUE OF LAND IN LANCASHIRE.—The Duke of Hamilton's Lancashire estates were put up to sale a few days ago, and the greater part disposed of to local purchasers. Upwards of £360,000 were realized by the sale, and the average rate of purchase was quite thirty-two years.

"SIR RICHARD HUGH SMYTH" is confined in a separate cell in Gloucester County prison. He declines to receive the prison diet, and his meals are supplied to him by his wife, or, as he calls her, "Lady Smyth." His trial will not take place until April next.

THE DUBLIN EXHIBITION proceeds very promisingly. On one day last week there were 18,000 visitors. The net proceeds of the Exhibition have reached the high sum of £60,000, and it is now confidently anticipated that, with the welcome aid of a Royal visit, not only will the whole expense of the Exhibition be defrayed, but that the committee will, at the close, be in a position to announce the fact of a surplus remaining after the discharge of all their enormous liabilities.

A DANGEROUS BALLOON ASCENT took place on Friday, at the Rotunda Gardens, Dublin, in the presence of the Countess of St. Germans, and a large and fashionable assemblage. Mrs. Graham, the aeronaut, took her place in the car, joined by Mr. Kennedy, who was advised to abandon his intention, but persisted. The fastenings being removed, the balloon would not rise, and all the bags of ballast, save one, were thrown out. It at length ascended, and drifted across the gardens at no great height, when the remaining bag of ballast was flung over by Mr. Kennedy. As the machine was borne rapidly over the trees, it became obvious the weight was too great. The car at length struck against a chimney, and lodged on a house, and Mrs. Graham and her companion were extricated. Mrs. Graham sustained several bruises, and Mr. Kennedy also some contusions.

J. B. GOUGH.—This peerless advocate of temperance delivered his first oration in Leeds, at the Music Hall, on Tuesday evening, Edward Baines, Esq., in the chair. The dense mass of human beings by whom the Music Hall was packed (leaving vast crowds outside who were disappointed of admission) sufficiently evinced the intense interest which is excited in favour of Mr. Gough, nor could the most sanguine expectant of his extraordinary power sit under the thrilling and majestic address which he delivered without the deepest sense of surprise and delight. Although possessing an inferior personage to Father Gavazzi, he has infinitely more power over the intellect and passions of his audience, since he combines not only the rolling thunder and the wild cataract of a vivid and burning declamation, but the poetic and the dramatic powers which are only allied to the highest order of genius. Mr. Gough is gifted with a splendid voice, and his action only serves to give tenfold impression to his masterly discourse. Simply as an orator he is unrivalled; but when it is considered that his splendid abilities are exclusively applied to an overwhelming exposure of the awful vice of intemperance, with its personal, moral, and social enormities, as contrasted with the happiness and benefits of true temperance, the importance of Mr. Gough's mission, and the value of its labours, cannot be over-estimated—*Bradford Observer*.

ELECTIONS AND ELECTION INQUIRIES.

We have some meagre information as to the various commissions appointed by Government to investigate bribery in various boroughs. The Hull Commission have had fifty-four days of inquiry, and have examined some 1,500 or 1,600 witnesses. They have not done yet. Mr. Commissioner Flood's health has broken down. The Maldon Bribery Commission have just presented their report, in which they state that extensive bribery and corruption have existed at the last and all previous elections for this borough. The Cambridge report is about to be presented. The Barnstaple Bribery Commissioners meet on the 30th instant, to inquire into the bribery and corruption alleged to have existed at the last and previous elections for Barnstaple. The Tynemouth Bribery Commissioners will not meet until the 4th of October. The Canterbury Bribery Commission does not seem to have yet concluded. Lord Londesborough, the last witness, was examined in a semi-public sort of way in the Court of Common Pleas, no person being present beside his lordship, the Commissioners, and their clerks. His lordship's evidence was altogether of the *non-mi-ricordo* kind, with the exception of the admission of the fact, that "he had no means of telling the amount of expenditure at his elections; that he did not pay the money, but that it was found by his relations; that the accounts were rendered to them; and that Mr. Alderman Brent had generally an unlimited authority, or *carte blanche*, to make payments as he pleased." A sum of £30,000 has been voted to defray the expenses of these inquiries.

The Peterborough committee appointed to inquire into Lord Fitzwilliam's alleged interference with the freedom of election, has made a long report, tending to acquit Lord Fitzwilliam of any direct or palpable intervention, but pointing out that his position gives him an inevitable influence. He ejected tenants who voted against his interest, but he allowed others to remain who had also voted against him. He had paid part of the expenses of an election petition, but had not got up the petition. He had taken part in consultations as to candidates, but his counsel was always sought. He had paid the usual "crowns" to scot and lot voters, distinguishing his own from other voters; but this was an old custom. While thus acquitting Lord Fitzwilliam of active impropriety, the report says:—"It is established to the satisfaction of your committee that there is a very general impression among the electors and inhabitants of Peterborough, grounded on their knowledge of Lord Fitzwilliam's influence upon the householders and scot-and-lot voters, under the circumstances above reported, that any candidate would have little chance of success who had not his approval; and there is no doubt that this impression does seriously interfere with the freedom of election in that city."

A new writ has been issued for the borough of Clitheroe for the vacancy caused by the unseating of Mr. Aspinall. The nomination took place on Monday. The candidates were Mr. G. N. Starkie, of Huntroyd, "a liberal Conservative," and Mr. Jonathan Peel. Mr. Starkie said he would support the Protestant Church; but he was opposed to church-rates, which he thought ought to be commuted, as the tithes had been. By far the most important question of the present day, however, was that of education, and he thought we should set forth some system whereby the children of the working classes might be educated to fulfil the duties of citizens. He was opposed to all state grants, such as that to Maynooth. He was for an extension of the suffrage, and should be prepared to give any measure brought in by the Government a favourable consideration. He attributed the existing prosperity of the country to the measures of the liberal Conservative party, and to the policy of that party he was prepared to give his support. In answer to questions the hon. candidate said he would certainly not support the ballot, but he was prepared to extend the suffrage to £5 householders. Mr. Jonathan Peel was next called upon, and commented upon the vague generalities in which his opponent had indulged, avowing himself an old and tried freethinker. He was for an extension of the suffrage, because he believed with the extension of education the power of the people ought to be extended; and he thought that a great extension of education having taken place since the Reform Bill was passed, they were fully entitled to an extension of representation. So far he should be disposed to support any measure that might be brought forward by Lord John Russell, but he would go yet further, and he should support the ballot, whether introduced by the Ministry or not, believing that if we increased the extent of representation, we should increase the necessity for protecting the voter in the exercise of his duty. In reply to various questions, Mr. Peel said he would vote for an inquiry as to the desirableness of discontinuing the Maynooth endowment; that the Ecclesiastical Tithes Bill was shelved, and there he would leave it; and that if the present laws were not sufficient to carry out the Ten Hours Act he would support a better. Mr. Hodgson asked if Mr. Starkie would vote for the abolition of church-rates and Easter dues? Mr. Starkie declined to answer the question. The question being put to Mr. Peel, that gentleman answered, "I will" [cheers]. A show of hands was then called for, and Mr. Peel was declared to have a large majority. A poll was demanded for Mr. Starkie. The polling took place yesterday, and resulted in the return of Mr. Starkie. The numbers at the close were—

Starkie	216
Peel	205

In his address to the electors of Stamford, the Right Hon. J. C. Herries states that he retires from his seat and public life in consequence of the infirmities of advancing years. Lord R. G. Cecil is the only candidate

in the field. In his address to the electors he states that it is his desire to uphold the same political principles as those so ably and consistently advocated by Mr. Herries, "though of course," he adds, "not objecting to make such cautious changes as lapse of time, or improvements in science, or the dispensations of Providence, may render necessary." He then continues:—

"It will be my duty, and I shall, if I have the honour of being elected one of your representatives, direct my best endeavours to resist any such tampering with our representative system as shall disturb the balance of reciprocal powers on which the stability of our constitution rests, and to obtain a due adjustment of general and local taxation under the new commercial system that has been forced upon us, so as to press fairly upon all classes alike in a proportion measured by their just claims and not by their relative strength.

Lord Cecil was elected on Monday without opposition.

Mr. Beamish, the Liberal candidate for Cork city, has been returned by a majority of 180; the numbers at the close of the poll being—Beamish, 1,183; Chatterton, 1,003. The city was very tranquil during the election.

THE CAMP AND THE FLEET.

Chobham Common is once more deserted—the tents of the 8,000 men quartered there being struck on Friday and Saturday. The last field-day was on Wednesday. During the week the Duke of Cambridge has been in command. The manœuvres executed were not complicated, but were remarkable for dashing charges of cavalry. The men have been now two months in camp. Early in the morning the Duke assembled the four regiments of cavalry, and made a complimentary speech.

A series of games and athletic exercises, got up among the Guards, and gone through on Thursday, closed the whole proceedings.

Unfortunately, this last field-day was marked by an accident; while Private Ware of the Artillery was serving one of the guns, his hand was blown off. It was lucky that the ramrod, which was projected to a considerable distance, struck no one. Ware was raised from the ground by some civilians near, and borne by his comrades on a stretcher to the camp.

Lord Hardinge and Lord Seaton formally signified, on Thursday, to the troops encamped at Chobham the approbation of the Queen, and their own separate approval of the conduct both of the officers and the men. Lord Seaton says that only "one instance of serious misconduct on the part of the troops has been reported." The Duke of Cambridge is complimented for the "very successful manner" in which he played his part.

According to the *Morning Chronicle* there are to be several alterations in the military costume. One is the helmet, new to the British service, made after the present pattern of the Prussian helmet, with a spike or spear head at the top, through which, the centre being hollow, the air is allowed to circulate for ventilation.

The helmets, several in number, are all of one pattern, but differently ornamented. They are made of block felt, and the weight is not more than twelve ounces. The coatees tried by the privates of the Scots Fusilier Guards are cut like a frock coat. They are all made double-breasted; the collar is in the Prussian style, and its adoption will lead to the disuse of the stiff stock. Among both officers and men it is a decided favourite. The substitution of the frock for the tail coat is also proposed for the cavalry as well as the infantry. The trial coat for the Scots Greys is a smart as well as military looking affair. It is a single-breasted scarlet frock coatee with blue facings, and has somewhat the appearance of a smart dress coat. In the horse artillery it is also proposed to prune some of the gold braid lace from the breast, and to substitute the frock for the tail coat. The great coats which have been issued are of the Austrian pattern, with the double breast, and made so that the collar can be laid down in warm, or closed up to cover the ears in cold weather, a great comfort to a sentry on a winter's night. The men all like the coat. A new rifle musket of the "1853" pattern has also been carried, and has been found to answer exceedingly well. It is 1 lb. 6 oz. lighter than the present Minie rifle, and has a similar bore. The bayonet is made to fix by means of a band, thus doing away with the spring, which is continually breaking under the present system. The sight is good, and something after the present range, the greatest being 900 yards. We understand that all orders for clothing have been stopped until the reports from Chobham are received on the merits of the different dresses and equipments referred to.

On Thursday, the Queen, Prince Albert, and children, and Count Alex Mensdorff and Prince Adalbert, Lord High Admiral of the Prussian Navy (if there is a Prussian navy), visited the fleet at Spithead. They were received with a royal salute, and then went on board the "Duke of Wellington," which, with half a dozen of the squadron, stood out to sea. The Queen was out for the greater part of the day, having left Osborne at ten, and returning at a quarter to six in the evening. In the race home, the "Agamemnon" again outstripped the "Duke of Wellington." Many of the vessels recently at Spithead have been sent to other stations.

On Monday the Channel squadron, under the orders of Rear-Admiral Corry, got under weigh at Spithead, and sailed on a cruise. This squadron consists of the "Prince Regent," 90, flagship; "Queen," 116; "Amphion," 34, screw steam frigate; "Sidon," 22, paddle steam frigate; "Valorous," 16, paddle frigate; "Leopard," 12, paddle frigate; and "Vulture," 6, paddle frigate. They all went away under sail, though they had but light and variable winds. It is supposed that Cork will be their destination, and that the First Lord of the Admiralty is with the squadron.

The Royal squadron to be in attendance on the Queen during her visit to Scotland, also left Cowes Roads on Monday night. This squadron consists of the "Victoria"

and "Albert," royal yacht, flag of Commodore Lord Adolphus Fitzclarence, G.C.H., Captain Crispin; "Tribune," 30, screw frigate; "Encounter," 14, screw frigate; "Barracouta," 6, paddle sloop; "Banshee," 3, despatch vessel; "Black Eagle," Admiralty yacht; and "Fairy," tender to the royal yacht.

THE ACCIDENT AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

Two of the men taken to Guy's Hospital have since died, making in all twelve sufferers by this lamentable accident. Three out of the other five removed are in a pitiable condition from fractures and wounds.

On the bodies lying at Sydenham the inquest was commenced on Wednesday. Only three witnesses were then examined, and two of these merely identified the dead. George Williams, a carpenter in the service of Messrs. Fox and Henderson, stated that the scaffoldings were erected under his orders. Three of the trusses fell together, the men being on the top of them. He had been employed in the construction of the building in Hyde Park, and thus had a knowledge of the nature of the work in progress. None of the trusses had been taken from Hyde Park. None of the columns on which they stood had given way. The trusses that remained appeared perfectly secure. He could not form any opinion why the three trusses had fallen. In his opinion, there had been no want of judgment displayed, and the material was of the best description. The mode of operation, in his opinion, was a judicious one; and he saw no danger in regard to the construction of the scaffolding. He had never had any apprehension with respect to those trusses, nor had any of the men ever expressed apprehension respecting them or fear of working on them. The accident was an unforeseen event, that could not be accounted for. The trusses had once before given way, and their strength had to be increased. At the conclusion of the evidence, Sir Charles Fox volunteered to go over the building with any person and give every explanation. Mr. Ballantine, who attended for the company, stated, that whatever was the result of the inquiry, the trusses would be given up, and a scaffolding raised from the ground to complete the building. The inquest terminated on Friday with a verdict of "Accidental death"—the jury expressing an opinion that no blame was attached to any individual.

At a separate inquest held on the bodies of the two men who died in Guy's hospital, further evidence was given to show that the greatest precautions had been taken, and that the proximate cause of the accident could not be ascertained. Mr. Cochrane, an engineer employed at the Crystal Palace, Sir Charles Fox, and Mr. Ward, an architect formerly employed at the Palace, gave evidence. Sir Charles Fox said, the plan which had failed had been adopted because it was considered a better and a safer mode than raising a scaffolding 180 feet high from the ground. The jury visited the Palace. On their return, two of their own body gave evidence. Mr. Doyle, a scale-maker, declared that the iron used for the trusses was of the best quality, and well put together. Mr. Drewit, a builder, said the timber was of excellent quality, quite new; and everything was well executed. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

The bodies of eight of the sufferers were interred on Thursday afternoon, in Sydenham churchyard—a lovely spot. The long funeral procession was formed in the central nave of the Palace, in which all work ceased for the day. The foreman of the works preceded the coffins; each coffin was followed by the relatives of the deceased; and in the rear were all the workmen, a thousand in number, headed by Sir Charles Fox, Mr. Henderson, and Mr. Cochrane. Before it reached the church the procession had been greatly swelled by additions.

It is stated that Messrs. Fox and Henderson invariably make a provision for the widows of workmen who lose their lives in their service, by a weekly allowance of from 10s. to 12s., continued over periods of not less than twelve months; and, what is, perhaps, really more important and beneficial to them, the firm invariably take charge of the orphan children, and introduce them to habits of industry in their own service."

THE HON. MR. AND MRS. NORTON.

There was a most painful scene in the Westminster County Court on Thursday. Messrs. Thrupp, coach-builders, of Oxford-street, sued the Honorable George Capel Norton for £49 10s., the balance of a bill for repairing a brougham belonging to the Honourable Mrs. Norton. That lady was called as a witness—against her will, as she informed the Court. Mrs. Norton made a statement to show that Mr. Norton had agreed to make her an allowance of £500 a year after they separated in 1836, but that it had not been paid since March 1852; hence these debts to tradespeople. The Judge endeavoured to confine the witness to the dry legal view of the case; but, under the cross-examination of Mr. Needham, her husband's counsel, the lady's feelings were speedily aroused. Mr. Needham wished to show that Mrs. Norton was in receipt of a large income from her friends and her writings. This introduced the name of Lord Melbourne. Did Mrs. Norton mean to say, asked Mr. Needham, that she had not received an income of £600 a year through the late Lord Melbourne? Mrs. Norton, who had been sitting on the bench, stood up promptly, and replied:

I could receive no income from the late Lord Melbourne's property, which is all entailed. My husband brought an action against Lord Melbourne. Lord Melbourne left nothing but a letter to his brother, in which he solemnly asseverated, as a dying man, that I had been falsely accused. I stand here as a blasted woman,

not in the eyes of my own class, but in the eyes of a class whom I do not less respect; and Lord Melbourne, as a dying man, begged his family, on account of the great disgrace, the great misery, the loss of home, the parting from my children, and the wreck of all my happiness, which I had unjustly suffered, that they would show me all kindness; and his family have done so—and I believe my husband is the only one who ever accused him of a base action [applause]; and a voice, "Shame!" Let Mr. Norton pay the £500 due from him under his own agreement, rather than cause the raking up of all these matters.

Mr. Needham elicited that Mrs. Norton had received £600 a year from Lady Palmerston: but, said the lady, that was "given me in charity"; "nobody is bound to pay me anything"; "I have no rights—only wrongs." The details of her life were extracted from her to show that she had been extravagant; that she brought up a poor labourer's child; and that she frequently gave dinners. She averred that at school she paid, not for the education, but for the residence of her sons; and that she had taken the labourer's child because she was then miserable, and compassionate, and broken-hearted. Mrs. Norton, whose replies were little speeches, stated, that since her mother's legacy (£15,000) came to her, Mr. Norton, in violation of his agreement, desired to reduce her allowance to £300. Mr. Norton repeatedly interrupted the proceedings in attempting to contradict some statement of his wife. Towards the close, a solicitor proved that an agreement, not binding in law, but morally, had been entered into by Mr. and Mrs. Norton, in which Mr. Norton agreed to pay his wife £500 a year. There was no stipulation in that agreement to the effect that Mrs. Norton should not receive any allowance from Lord Melbourne. The judge decreed a nonsuit, because during the years which the debt extended Mrs. Norton had regularly received her allowance. He declined to give Mr. Norton an opportunity of answering the statements made there that day; but he admitted that they were one-sided. The whole scene was painful in the extreme. Mr. Norton, attempting to force an explanation, was hissed by the audience; and finally hissed out of court.

The following letter from Mrs. Norton has been published in the daily papers:—

Sir,—I ask your patience for this letter, in consequence of the unexpected falsehood on which Mr. Norton yesterday upheld his non-liability to my creditors in the County Court. Mr. Norton then declared his stipulation with me was, that he should be liable only if "I received no aid from the late Lord Melbourne's family."

The solicitor who drew up the agreement contradicted him on oath; on oath he stated there was no such stipulation.

I contradict him in facts, which are stronger than oaths. Our agreement was signed in September, 1848, and Lord Melbourne was then still alive; and therefore it is impossible any such stipulation should have been made as to his supposed bequests. To save himself from the payment of £500 a year, due to my creditors on a formal covenant, Mr. Norton has uttered this falsehood, and raked up from the ashes of the past an old, refuted slander, on which for two hours yesterday he himself in person, and the counsel he employed, examined and cross-examined me on topics which had nothing to do with the case, but which were to imply degradation and shame.

Once for all, I did not part from my husband on Lord Melbourne's account; nor had Lord Melbourne anything whatever to do with our quarrel. I parted from Mr. Norton because I persisted in an intention to take my children to my brother's house, where my husband, on account of his own conduct, was not received. My husband sent my children to a woman with whom he was intimate, and who has since left him an estate in Yorkshire; and we separated upon that. I had no other ground of dispute with my husband. The slander respecting Lord Melbourne was an afterthought. So it was yesterday. Mr. Norton did not make any such stipulation with me as he says he did. There was then no question of bequests from Lord Melbourne, for Lord Melbourne was not dead. Mr. Norton broke his covenant, according to his own letter, because my mother left me an annuity. There is not a syllable in his letter of any other cause. He introduced Lord Melbourne's name yesterday to pain and insult me; and also to draw off public attention from the fact of the positive fraud committed on my creditors by his withholding the sum due to them. The year after the action against Lord Melbourne, he besought my return home, and my forgiveness, in the most endearing terms. He threw the blame of the trial on Lord Grantley, Lord Wynford, and the political party to which they belonged. If he believed in that slander, he was base to write caressing letters to persuade my return to him; if (as is the fact) he did not believe that slander, he is doubly base to invoke the name of the dead against the mother of his grown-up sons, in a public Court, by way of excusing his violation of a solemn covenant.

All this—though it is life and death to me—may not interest the public. But what does interest the public is the state of the law. By the law as it stands, if Mr. Norton can evade his covenant (as he does) by stating that it is null because it was a contract with me—and a man cannot contract with his own wife—he can defraud the creditor. But mark, I also can defraud the creditor; for if a creditor sues me, I have only to plead "couverte"—plead that I am a married woman; and the creditor, who could not recover against Mr. Norton, is equally unable to recover against me. Between the facts that because I am Mr. Norton's wife he can cheat me, and because I am Mr. Norton's wife I can cheat others, the tradesman who had supplied me would, by the law of England, utterly lose his money. This does interest the public, and is a state of the law which certainly requires some amending. The case yesterday was technically decided on this point—that at the time this particular bill was incurred the allowance had not been stopped. The validity of the covenant Mr. Norton is attempting to break was not called in question; and it does interest the public and the bar whether it can be called in question—whether, if not a contract with me, it is not a contract with my creditors—a written and stamped agreement with them, made by a magistrate and a barrister; because, as I have stated, if it is not a

valid contract the creditor may be utterly cheated of his money, if (which God forbid!) I should copy Mr. Norton, and also fling off, by a quibble of the law, my liability to them.

I am, sir, yours obediently,
CAROLINE NORTON.

ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

Two little boys, sons of a Mr. Brewer, one eight and the other fourteen years of age, were on Saturday alone in a room of a cottage at Stoke Gabriel, near Totnes. On entering the kitchen, the elder lad espied a gun, and taking it up, said to his little brother in fun, "I'll shoot you!" The elder boy immediately pulled the trigger, the gun being loaded. The charge entered the poor little fellow's mouth, who fell down dead at his brother's feet. The lad who was the cause of the accident was so shocked, that for a long time he could not speak, and was obliged at once to be placed under medical treatment. The father of the lads had left the gun in this careless manner for the purpose, as he said, of shooting rooks. The mother, as might be imagined, was frantic on her return home, at the sight of her bleeding and lifeless child.

A somnambulist, named Parker, captain of a Newcastle brig, left his bed early last Wednesday morning, dressed himself, and walked half a mile in his sleep down to a coal wharf at Ratcliffe, where he fell over into the water in the Regent's Canal, and was drowned. It is stated he was in the habit of walking miles in his sleep.

Persons of weak digestion should beware of shell fish. A few days ago a gentleman, named Docking, a contractor, ate a very hearty tea off lobster, at Yarmouth. About an hour after he complained of difficulty of breathing, loosened his clothes, and expressed fears that he should burst, at the same time requesting to be carried to a sofa. Medical assistance was sent for, but he expired before help arrived, leaving a widow and four children.

There has been a fatal boat accident near Ventnor, in the Isle of Wight. Mr. Anderson, son-in-law to the late A. Bidgood, Esq., of Vigo-street, London, and his wife, on a visit at Devonshire-terrace, Ventnor, have occasionally gone out for a sail. On Saturday Mr. Anderson again went out, accompanied by two experienced watermen (good swimmers), named Barton, directing their course towards Blackgang, the wind blowing south-west, and the sea running rather high, particularly so at a point off Niton, called the Race, which is considered a dangerous part, and no doubt it was about this part the accident occurred, as the boat was seen by fishermen rounding the coast, but not afterwards. On Sunday morning the boat was washed ashore at Bonchurch, and towed from thence to Ventnor. It is supposed that the boat was swamped, and went down almost immediately. The bodies have not yet been seen, and it may be many days before they are discovered.

Two men and two women were lost in a boat laden with fish, near Islay, off Portsworth. There were seven persons on board. When about three-quarters of a mile from the Islay shore a smart breeze got up, and drove the boat, in spite of the efforts of those on board, on a sunken rock. So great was the force with which she struck that she instantly went to pieces and sunk, and four out of the seven met a watery grave.

The papers relate an extraordinary instance of revenge. A man named Taysum, living at Bartestree, near Lugwardine, owed a neighbour named Jones a grudge for three months' imprisonment for a criminal assault on his daughter. On Saturday, during the time Mrs. Jones was at Hereford market, no person being left at home, the cottage was entered by removing a board, some of the property therein was stolen and carried away, and most of the remainder damaged or destroyed. Jones's new hat and coat were cut to pieces, as also some articles of wearing apparel belonging to his children, and strewn about the floor; the clock was carried out of doors and smashed to atoms, and every article of crockeryware in the house was broken; candles had been thrown on the ground and trampled under foot, and a tame rabbit which was on the premises had been killed and left behind, and half a bushel of bread, a cheese, and some wearing apparel had been stolen. Taysum was seen near the house on Saturday; and from circumstances which have transpired there is little doubt that he was the perpetrator of the robbery, and of the other diabolical actions also.

The venerable Lord Denman—now infirm and afflicted with paralysis—his daughter, the Hon. Mrs. Hodgson, and her children, reside at Middleton Hall, an unpretending edifice, close to the village of Stoney Middleton, and at the entrance of the romantic Middleton-dale, in Derbyshire. On Wednesday night the house was robbed, and on Thursday morning, the housemaid found the front and one of the back doors open. Several articles of value were found missing, including a box of heart of oak, mounted with gold, containing the freedom of the city of London, presented to Mr. Denman in 1820, after his celebrated defence of Queen Caroline; and a silver inkstand, presented to Lord Denman in 1850, by his brother judges of the Court of Queen's Bench, on the occasion of his retiring from the seat he had worthily filled for eighteen years. Suspicion has fallen upon the under-butler, a youth of eighteen, named Tomlinson, who slept on the ground-floor. The police have come to the conclusion that the robbery had not been the work of any professional thieves, and that, if not committed by some of the servants, it must have been connived at by inmates of the house. With respect to Tomlinson, it appeared that he had been spending money rather freely in the village, though he had not recently received any wages. His explanations were so unsatisfactory that he was searched. In his pockets

were found two purses, both identified by the Hon. Mrs. Hodgson as her property, having been missed by her at separate times during the last fortnight, and containing, when lost, a few pounds in gold and silver. Tomlinson was taken into custody. He admitted having stolen the purses, but denied any participation in the robbery of Wednesday night. A dismissed valet is also suspected. Active search is being made for the missing valuables.

Law, Police, and Assize.

The important case relative to the Bridgewater estates has at length been decided. The House of Lords, sitting on appeals, gave judgment on Friday, in "Egerton *versus* Brownlow and others." Our readers will remember that the seventh Earl of Bridgewater devised his estates to certain persons in succession and their heirs, of whom the late Lord Alford was the first, on condition that he "acquired the title or dignity of Duke or Marquis of Bridgewater," and voiding the use of the estates should that condition not be fulfilled. Lord Alford died in 1851, and his son became Earl Brownlow. As the condition had not been fulfilled, the estates were claimed, under the will, by Charles Henry Cust, younger son of the late Earl Brownlow, who forthwith assumed the name and arms of Egerton. The son of Lord Alford disputed his claim; but Lord Justice Cranworth decided that, as the condition of the will had not been fulfilled, the estates vested in Charles Henry Egerton. Against this decision the son of Lord Alford, now Earl Brownlow, appealed. The House of Lords referred certain questions to the judges; and the result was that nine decided for and two against the will. Judgment was moved by Lord Lyndhurst. In a lucid and comprehensive speech, relying both on precedent and argument, he decided that the proviso was a "condition subsequent," adverse to public policy, and therefore illegal and void. Lord Brougham, Lord Truro, and Lord St. Leonards, concurred with Lord Lyndhurst; the Lord Chancellor maintaining the opinion which he had expressed as Lord Justice Cranworth. The House of Lords, therefore, on grounds of public policy, reversed the judgment of the court below; the costs of all parties to be paid out of the estate.

At the Central Criminal Court, on Wednesday, Edouard Raynaud was tried for misdemeanour, in having "unlawfully solicited the Prince de Joinville to confer with him in a conspiracy to assassinate Louis Napoleon, the Emperor of the French." The particulars of the case were recently recorded: Raynaud wrote to the Prince asserting that he intended to assassinate Louis Napoleon, and asking him for £20 to assist in carrying out the project. The Prince sent the letters to Sir Richard Mayne. Prince de Joinville appeared as a witness. (He was evidently very deaf.) He said Raynaud was an entire stranger to him. Mr. Woollett, the prisoner's counsel—"Has not your Royal Highness received applications for money from a great many French exiles?" The Prince de Joinville: "Am I obliged to answer this question?" Baron Platt said that the question must be answered; but the witness need not mention any names. The Prince then said that he had been applied to for money by several exiles from France. The case against the prisoner, so far as the sending of the letters was concerned, was fully made out. The defence was, that the *intent* of Raynaud was not to assassinate the Emperor, but to extract money from the Prince. Mr. Woollett pointed out, that no "infernal machine," nor even a pistol or a knife, was found in the prisoner's possession. The wretched creature at the bar had used a silly artifice to get money—that was all. Mr. Baron Platt directed the jury to consider whether the intention of the prisoner was that laid in the indictment, or the one suggested by his counsel. The jury consulted for half-an-hour, and then acquitted the prisoner; they believed his only object was to extort money.

John Daley, formerly a policeman, was convicted of assaulting Inspector Reason—"wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm." Mr. Reason had been obliged to report Daley, as his accounts were suspicious; Daley borrowed a staff, and struck the Inspector a fearful blow on the temple, endangering the sight of an eye. The jury and Mr. Reason recommended the culprit to mercy, which saved him from transportation; he was sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

On Thursday, Mr. Bodkin applied to the court to postpone the trial of an indictment against Major Beresford and ten other persons. On Wednesday evening, the Grand Jury had found a true bill for misdemeanour against the Major and the others for an offence connected with the Derby election in 1852; the defendants professed ignorance of what the charge consisted, and Mr. Bodkin applied that they might be allowed to put in bail to appear at the next sessions. Mr. Baron Platt assented. The names of the defendants are William Beresford, George Henry Richardson Cox, William Thomas Cox, John Huish, Alfred Akermann, John Clark, Christopher Hibbert, John Calow, John Savage, Thomas Morgan, and Thomas Lund. There are a great many counts in the indictment, but the principal charge against the defendants is that of combining together for the purpose of bribing certain electors of the town of Derby, in order to procure the election of a member of Parliament by unconstitutional means. Major Beresford, accompanied by Lord Wynford, attended Mr. Jardine, at Bow-street, on Saturday. Lord Wynford offered himself as one of Major Beresford's securities; and, on the oath being about to be administered, observed, "I believe that, being a peer of the realm, my honour will be sufficient; at least, I can assert that privilege, although, of course, I

have no objection to be sworn." Mr. Jardine rather thought in criminal proceedings the oath must be administered, and his lordship was then sworn, and his bail accepted, as also that of Mr. Whateley. The defendant was then ordered to enter into his own recognizances in £80, in addition to the two sureties of £40 each, to answer the various charges set forth in the indictment.

Thomas Garnett, committed under a coroner's warrant, charged with manslaughter, as not having supplied his wife with the necessaries of life, has been acquitted on trial; medical evidence showed that the woman died of disease of the lungs, enough to kill twenty persons.

At the Middlesex Sessions, on Wednesday, six dock-labourers were convicted of divers savage assaults committed during the recent "strike." The sentences of imprisonment varied from nine months to one month.

Railway Companies must look to themselves. Juries are affording the public better protection than Acts of Parliament. At the Liverpool Assizes, on Saturday, the executors of the late Mr. C. Carati, a Greek merchant and broker, residing at Glasgow, who was killed by a railway accident near Bolton, in March last, on the defendants' railway, brought an action against the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company to recover damages for his loss. The deceased gentleman entered the train at Bolton. Soon after the speed was greatly and, as it appears, improperly increased, to forty miles an hour. Then came a "jerk," and "three separate crashes;"—the train was off the line. It ran on for seventy yards, and then the carriage in which Mr. Carati was seated was thrown over, and he was severely injured. He was carried to the Manchester Infirmary, in which institution he expired about a month afterwards. He was in the receipt of an income varying from £1,500 to £2,500 per annum. He left behind him a wife and three children. Under these circumstances damages were taken, by consent, of £3,000 to be divided in equal shares among his widow and three children. There were five other actions against the same company, arising out of the same accident, in which damages were taken (also by consent) to the amount of £4,300, making the total sum to be paid by them, exclusive of law costs, £7,300.

At Liverpool, Miss Wild, a milliner of Corporation-street, Manchester, prosecuted Hobson, traveller to Mr. Dunn, a draper of Newcastle, for slander. Mr. Dunn directed Hobson to call on a Miss Wild at Manchester for £50; and he warned him that this lady was a slippery customer, who had been in prison six years ago, at Dunn's instance, for forgery. Hobson called on the plaintiff; she denied the debt; Hobson then told her, in the presence of her apprentices and pupils, that she had been in prison for forgery—she was the worst of characters. Soon after, the traveller discovered that he had made a gross mistake—he had gone to a wrong "Miss Wild." A correspondence ensued with Mr. Dunn; the slandered lady demanded £50 and a written apology; an action was commenced against Mr. Dunn; he denied that he had authorized Hobson's statements; and a new action was commenced against Hobson. The jury now gave £100 damages.

The case of Mr. Norman Wilkinson, the share-broker charged with having unlawfully bargained with a person, whose name is unknown, for the purchase of an office in the gift of the East India Company, contrary to the statute, was again brought before the Lord Mayor, at the Mansion House, on Monday. Mr. Clarkson, in a lengthened statement, recapitulated the details which he entered into upon the occasion of applying for the summons on the 9th instant, and having put in evidence some correspondence between the secretary to the East India Company and the defendant, in which the latter declined to give up the name of the person with whom it was alleged he had been in treaty for the cadetship in question, proceeded to call Mr. W. A. Wilkinson, the hon. member for Lambeth, and brother of the defendant, who underwent a precisely similar course of examination to that to which he was originally subjected, with the exception that he was now sworn. A lengthened cross-examination produced no result. Mr. Clarkson, therefore, called upon the Court to order the defendant to enter into sureties to answer any charge that might be preferred against him on the part of the East India Company at the Central Criminal Court. Mr. Bodkin, on the part of the defendant, submitted that upon the evidence as it at present stood, there was no charge for the defendant to answer—no proof whatever, on the part of the prosecutors, of any corrupt contract or agreement, or conspiracy; that even if there were a scintilla of proof of this fact there was no evidence to show that the magistrate had jurisdiction to put the defendant on his trial. The Lord Mayor postponed his decision to a future day in order to enable him to consider the technical objections which have been advanced by the learned counsel on either side. Mr. Clarkson said, that whatever might be the result of his lordship's decision, he should be under the painful necessity, supposing the matter to stand as it does now, of applying to his worship to commit Mr. Wilkinson.

Court, Personal, and Political News.

The past week has been rather a busy one at Osborne. On Wednesday the Queen attended Cowes regatta. On Thursday she unexpectedly took the Spithead fleet out to sea. A Privy Council was held on Friday. Amongst the distinguished visitors at Osborne have been Count Alexander Mensdorff, Prince Adalbert, of Prussia, and the Earl of Aberdeen. Prince Albert's birthday was celebrated at Osborne, on Saturday, by the customary festival to

the labourers and workmen employed at Osborne; also to the seamen, marines, and boys of the Royal yachts; to the non-commissioned officers and men of the detachment of the 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers, the Trinity-house men, and the Coast Guard stationed at East Cowes, amounting, in all, to about 500 persons. A dinner, dancing, and rustic games, diversified the proceedings. The Queen witnessed the proceedings from the Royal marquee.

It has been officially announced that neither levee nor drawing-room will be held by her Majesty during her approaching visit to Ireland. This circumstance sufficiently fixes the private character of the Royal visit.

According to the *John Bull*, Prince Albert is negotiating for the purchase or rental of a magnificent building, the property of Mr. Child, the banker, situated on an eminence between St. John's-wood and Highgate. It is intended, we believe, as a "nursery" for the Royal children.

The members of the Government are fast leaving town. Lord John Russell has gone to Roseneath, Dumfriesshire, and Sir W. Molesworth to Dublin.

On Saturday, a deputation of Peers waited upon Lord Palmerston to present his lordship with an address, and medallions in gold, silver, and bronze, of Prince Adam Czartoryski, in testimony of their gratitude to his lordship, for his sympathy. Viscount Palmerston assured them of his deep sympathy, and should, at all times, be most happy to do what he could to give them aid, so far as it was not incompatible with his duty as a member of the Government.

Mr. Edmond O'Flaherty has been appointed, jointly with Mr. Godley, Commissioner of Income-tax for Ireland.

Mr. Joseph Hume, M.P., with the Misses Hume, are among the latest arrivals at Dublin from England.

We are glad to learn that Mr. Roebuck's health is so greatly improved as to enable him to accept the invitation to the Cutlers' feast.—*Sheffield Independent*.

Lord Palmerston has appointed a commission to inquire into certain charges of cruelty preferred by some of the inhabitants of Birmingham against the Governor of the gaol there. The Governor resigned on Thursday.

Amongst the deaths of the last week have been Major-General Lord Saltoun, who served at Waterloo, and was described by the Duke of Wellington as a pattern to the army, "both as a man and a soldier;" General Sir F. Adam, Colonel of the 21st Regiment of Foot, also a Waterloo veteran; and Mr. Bransby Cooper, elder brother of Sir Astley, and celebrated as a surgeon, who died suddenly at the Atheneum Club. He was the author of several surgical treatises.

Sir George Cockburn, G.C.B., one of the oldest officers of the British service, died at Leamington, on the 19th inst., in the 82nd year of his age. During fourteen years he had a seat in Parliament, representing in the course of that period Portsmouth, Weobley, Plymouth, and Ripon. For seventeen years he had a seat at the Board of Admiralty, and was the Parliamentary organ of that department throughout a great part of that period. During Sir R. Peel's last administration, Sir George Cockburn held the responsible position of senior naval lord, discharging all its functions, especially those of a Parliamentary character, with great credit to himself and to his Ministerial chief. His name will descend to posterity not only as a man who in his time, and according to his degree, held an important rank among the lawgivers of England, but as a man associated with Nelson, often in victory, never in defeat; as a man who frequently overcame not only a European enemy, but contended successfully with American seamanship and valour. At his death he was Admiral of the Fleet.

One or two of our provincial contemporaries pay a tribute to the memory of the late John Childs of Bungay. The *Norfolk News* concludes a notice by saying that, "henceforth, the name of John Childs will stand conspicuous on the list of those Nonconformist worthies who, having served their generation, are gone to their rest." The *Suffolk Chronicle* says:—

The hearty and benevolent encouragement of John Childs has often stimulated our humble exertions in giving currency to opinions, at the time unpopular, but which have since become triumphant, when others assuming greater pretensions, and whose professions, at least, entitled them to respect, have endeavoured to put us to silence with the order, "stop my paper." Like him, we have indomitable faith in the ultimate ascendancy of great principles, and, though opposition from purely selfish motives may oppose obstacles, yet, in the course of time, and as knowledge spreads among the people at large, these obstacles are becoming daily weaker and weaker. Few men have displayed a greater amount of perseverance and ability, or thrown more real earnestness into the cause of truth than the truly noble and patriotic man whose removal from among us we now deplore. Though the body be dead, the spirit liveth, and society will long reap advantages, the seeds of which were scattered abroad by an unseen hand, now resting from its labours, in storing up treasures where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt.

The Peace Congress is to hold its next meeting this year at Edinburgh, on the 12th and 13th October, and a very large attendance is expected both from the Old and New World.

"The Meditated Dog-cart Duel" is the title given by a contemporary to some curious correspondence which has passed between Mr. C. H. Frewen and Sir John Shelley, both members of the House of Commons. It arose out of an unusual proceeding of the latter in a debate on the Turnpike Acts Continuance Bill. The Commons in committee inserted a clause prohibiting the use of carts drawn by dogs on the

rural turnpike-roads. The Lords struck out the clause. When the Lords' amendments were considered, Mr. Frewen moved the re-insertion of the clause. Whereupon Sir John Shelley read a printed circular, issued by Mr. Frewen, but marked "private," calling together the friends of the clause, but requesting them not to appear to make a party, so that the Government might be surprised. Mr. Frewen resented this, as "involving a breach of confidence," and demanded the name of the person who had given up the circular. Sir John Shelley replied that he could not regard the circular as private, for it was printed; and further stated that the person who gave it to him was not a member of the Conservative party. Upon this Mr. Frewen, dating from "Cold Overton Hall, near Oakham," wrote, that no one having the pretension to call himself a gentleman would have read such a letter aloud in a public assembly. Sir John replied; but the letter was returned unopened, and "Mr. F." notified that he could not receive any more communications from Sir John "except through another person." The unopened letter simply referred Mr. Frewen to Sir John's previous letter. The correspondence closes with a formal request to Mr. Frewen, through Sir John Shelley's solicitors, not "to trouble that gentleman with any further communications."

Science and Art.

A week's record of inventions and discoveries illustrates the activity and solid results of scientific research.

First we have the promise of a "revolution in printing" by a new plan brought into operation and patented by a company, at the head of which is Major Beniowski. It was exhibited to a large number of gentlemen on Saturday, including many M.P.'s. The following description has been given of its peculiarities:—

The primary feature of the scheme is the use of logotypes, the peculiarity of which is that, besides being composed of double, treble, and even quintuple combinations of letters, the character to be printed is stamped at the bottom of the type, and so presented first to the eye of the compositor, and consequently a person not trained in what is technically termed composing can soon with great facility single out the letter or letters he requires. To remedy the large space required, Major Beniowski has devised what is termed "the authoritor," composed of 1,650 compartments rising above each other, and all placed within the reach of a person sitting opposite them in a chair. Here the single and combined letters are arranged in convenient alphabetical order; and, instead of being selected with the hand, are picked out with metal tweezers. Whatever difficulties may attend the practical every-day working of the machinery, there can be no doubt that the composing of the logotypes is an operation of great rapidity. It is part of the system that females and children can soon be taught to compose. On Saturday, a young lady composed five and a half lines from a newspaper, taken up at random, within three minutes, which is at the rate of 110 lines per hour, a speed far above that which is attainable under the established system, and which, if the other parts of the plan correspond with it, must have the effect of immensely reducing the cost of composition. The distribution of the type, after being used, is performed by means, first, of drawers into which it has to be dropped, and then by being slid down the composing apparatus in separate grooves.

One important element of the scheme is the power which it will afford, if it can otherwise be made to work, of correcting the composed type in metal instead of proofs. In addition to the type apparatus, there is a new printing machine, the novel features of which are that the types are imposed on the interior surface of a cylinder, and therefore cannot, it is alleged, fall out by their own gravity, or be driven off by the centrifugal force, and that the feeding and receiving boards, the distributing, inking, and impression rollers, &c., are in the interior of a cylinder, and therefore the whole occupies one-third of the space that would otherwise be required. Great stress also is laid on the use of vulcanized India rubber rollers, which are not affected by the temperature of the atmosphere.

Paris advices inform us of a new mode of public illumination. The principle is that of the multiplication of light by means of innumerable small mirrors, arranged in a particular manner, in a multitude of frames bound together; and which may take different forms, as that of a star, that of a Cross of the Legion of Honour, &c. This framing, in light wood work, with its mirrors, is placed perpendicularly, and made to rotate. In front of its central point is placed a bright burner, the reflexion of which illuminates every mirror and multiplies the light infinitely. If between the burner and this system of mirrors a coloured glass is interposed, the mirrors reflect the colour. By means of certain arrangements, the interposed glasses are made to produce effects and combinations of tints to which the rotation gives a fairy aspect. Where the light is not coloured, the reflecting power is said to be so great that a man may read by it at a kilometre's distance—about two-thirds of a mile! This mode of lighting, it is added, may be turned to account for other purposes than that of mere street illumination—for example, for shipwreck signals, the lighting of great night works, tunnels, &c.

Of even greater importance are the important results promised from combining the varied knowledge and experience of seamen on the ocean. A very important and interesting meeting of shipowners, merchants, and captains, was held at Lloyd's on Thursday afternoon, to hear the explanations of Lieutenant Maury, of the United States navy, and head of the Observatory at Washington, with reference to the various currents of the ocean, and the direction of the winds. In the course of his explanations he mentioned several facts bearing positive proofs of the correctness of the American system of sailing. The

period generally occupied to perform the voyage from New York to the Equator was forty-one days; but, since the investigations have been made, the passage has been reduced to about twenty-seven days. The voyage from New York to Rio has been reduced to twenty days, and the Liverpool clipper, "Marco Polo," by following the rules of the new system, made her last passage to Port Phillip in about seventy days. The American Government, through Lieut. Maury, place all the valuable information they have obtained, through the co-operation of a large proportion of the American captains, at the disposal of the British shipping interest; all that is asked in return is, that English commanders reciprocate by furnishing the American Government with extracts from their ships' logs. A letter from the Chairman of Lloyd's is to be addressed to the First Lord of the Treasury, expressive of a hope that her Majesty's Government will cordially co-operate with that of America in furthering an object of so vast an importance to the trade and commerce of this country.

Just as we are beginning to be apprehensive of a failure in the supply of gutta percha, the *Journal of the Society of Arts* informs us that an analogous substance may be obtained in India. Dr. Riddell, officiating superintendent surgeon of the Nizam's army, in making experiments on the Muddar plant of India (*Asclepias gigantea*) had occasion to collect the milky juice, and found that as it gradually dried it became tough and hard like gutta percha. He was induced to treat the juice in the same manner as that of the gutta percha tree; and the result has been the obtaining of a substance precisely analogous to gutta percha. The chemical tests correspond exactly with the established results of gutta percha. It becomes plastic in hot water, and has been moulded into cups and vessels. It will unite with the true gutta percha. The muddur also produces an excellent fibre, useful in the place of hemp and flax.

Our readers know, that an application is before the Treasury for a new exploration of a portion of the Australian continent. M. Ernest Haug, if the requisite means are forthcoming, intends to start from the mouth of the river Victoria, to trace this stream to its source or sources,—thence to continue in an easterly direction, according to the nature of the country and the facilities for pursuing the journey. In this cross movement it is expected that the party will strike the upper waters of some stream falling into the Gulf of Carpentaria; and when so much of the geography of the continent shall have been ascertained, the explorers propose to make their way back again to the known world through some of the old settlements.—*Athenaeum*.

The *Builder* reports progress respecting the Crystal Palace. The Pompeian Court is the most advanced; the coloured decorations being, to a considerable extent, completed. The Egyptian Court has also taken shape; so, also, the Greek court; but this, as it strikes us, will be less unlike what the people have already seen than the former and some of the other portions. The collection of casts from antique statues will, nevertheless, render this a very attractive point in the Exhibition. The shell for the corridors and doorways forming the Byzantine, Italian-Medieval, Gothic, and Renaissance Courts, is being rapidly constructed; and in the gallery above is a marvellous collection of casts from all parts of the world, destined to occupy the floor and walls of the apartments thus being prepared for them. In the grounds an immense amount of work has been done—terraces levelled and formed; here the earth cut down, and there again brought up to a height of 18 or 20 feet in thin layers, made solid by continuous ramming. The preparations for the water-works are on a colossal scale. Four pipes, 2 feet 9 inches each in diameter, are being laid down for two cascades, which will run along a large extent of ground, and, at the end, fall over and pass the face of an arcade 200 feet long, where visitors will walk. The extent of water from end to end will be 2,000 feet. The great basins are 360 feet across, with a high jet in each. In the whole there will be ten great fountains. Ten architects and sculptors, some foreign, some English, were selected to give designs, and the sum of £100 was paid to each. Amongst them are John Bell, Hector Horneau, Owen Jones, Kiss of Berlin, John Thomas, D. Wyatt, &c. The designs, about 100 in number, have just now been sent in. There is also to be a series of hotels, designed by Sir Joseph Paxton, to be erected in iron and glass, similar in character to the main building, on the London side, and connected with the Crystal Palace by glass ways passing over the public road. These, it is proposed, which are to be of first, second, and third class, each containing about 100 rooms, and supplying refreshments at costs suited to the means of the various orders of visitors, are to be carried out by a separate company

Literature.

There and Back Again in search of Beauty. By JAMES AUGUSTUS ST. JOHN. 2 vols. London: Longman and Co., Paternoster-row.

MR. ST. JOHN went to Switzerland, he tells us, "purely out of love for the memory of Jean Jacques Rousseau," resolving "to stroll about at pleasure over the scene of the *Nouvelle Héloïse*," and expecting "to find at Vevay and Clarens the representatives, in feature and figure at least, of Julie and Claire." He was disappointed;—but exquisite scenery detained him awhile, until won from its beauties by his imagination's land of promise; and then, leaving wife and children at Lausanne, he started for Italy, Greece, and

Egypt. In these volumes we have the intellectual result of that journey—the author has here "endeavoured to give utterance to what may be called the philosophy of travelling."

The key-note to the book is contained in the following sentences:—

"The journey altogether was a strange one for me, since not having been a great traveller, I had not, and indeed have not yet, learned to view men and countries as common-place because many other persons before me had beheld them. In moving about the world, it is not always what we see, but what we feel, that is productive of most delight both to ourselves and others. Nature supplies the canvas, but we must bring along with us the colours, if we would call into being an original or even a true picture—true, I mean, for all those who have the same organization and sympathies with us."

Accordingly, Mr. St. John gives us not so much a book of travels, as a book of the sensations of travel, with the thought and feeling stimulated by the experiences of the way.—Of places, we see but little—only enough to frame the pictures of people and life that the author draws so delicately and livingly. Of sights, we have absolutely nothing. Of personal adventure, what, in the worn track taken by the traveller, was there to be encountered? All the staple of ordinary travel is wanting: and yet,—indeed, for that very reason,—it is the freshest and most winning book that a common journey from Europe to the East has produced to us. Mr. St. John has such a personal presence in his book,—and establishes himself so familiarly in his reader's confidence,—and tells him so freely and unreservedly his passing thought and sentiment, that it all seems real life, and the journey "there and back again" becomes almost an actual experience.

That we may not detain our own readers too long from these pleasures of companionship with our traveller, so far as it may be enjoyed by means of a few extracts, we shall devote but a sentence to the literary character of his work. Mr. St. John unites many of the qualities of the artist, the poet, and the philosopher:—he is neither essentially, or to completeness; but he has something of all in his composition, and the something has become considerable and of worth by fine culture. He paints with truthful and beautiful effects; he idealises as well as represents; he has great knowledge of man and men; he has sentiment, passion, and delicate humour; and adds a certain worldly philosophy, that has no profound themes, but is both strong and subtle in every-day life. He is a practised writer; and in ease, freedom, and fitness of expression, he is quite perfect. We now and then feel that he is artificial, rather than artistic, and that he indulges too many conceits,—but he is much oftener complete, as we have said, in the beauty and expressiveness with which he sets out his fact, his fancy, or his thought.

And now for extracts. Here, first—and it is a characteristic and fairly representative passage—is a picture of

CITTA VECCHIA—MALTA.

"I have the Citta Vecchia before me, distinct and life-like, in my mind's eye, but when divested of the colours of imagination, and translated into the cold region of language, it will, I fear, lose very much of its beauty. It does not, as I recollect it, at all resemble the habitual dwellings of mere creatures of clay. It is a city of sunshine, a cluster of dreamy roofs and towers invested with golden light, and resting, as it were, against a sky of inexpressible blue. At the moment of our arrival I suppose all the inhabitants were taking a siesta. Not a sound was heard in the streets. No man, woman, or child appeared to greet us. Here and there, on a windowsill, or at an open door, a few dreamy cats, with half-closed eyes, sat purring in the sun, while innumerable grey lizards glanced up and down, like diminutive shadows, over the greyer walls.

"Standing on a breezy eminence, there is generally at Citta Vecchia some movement in the atmosphere, whose invisible currents, as they float round church towers and ruined palaces, shook the dilapidated casements, and made one imagine oneself in a ruined city. As far as the eye could at first perceive, all human life had, in fact, been drained out of it; but when we entered the yard of what must, I suppose, by courtesy, be called an inn, the clatter of our mule's hoofs upon the stones, with a loud shout thrice repeated by our Valetta guide, roused a number of lazy stable-boys, who rolled out of a quantity of straw at the bottom of the yard, like so many fat maggots out of a cheese. Two of them undertook the care of the mules, while a third conducted us into the house, where, at a parlour window commanding a view down the steep brow of a hill all the way to the sea, we sat in cool indolence, while our nondescript meal, neither dinner nor breakfast, was getting ready. All my companions had been accustomed to the ways of the East, and loved to take a nap in the middle of the day. Scarcely, therefore, had they seated themselves before they were fast asleep, gently, perhaps, yielding to the genius of the place, which appeared to invite one to enter upon a state of everlasting repose.—When they had all joined the dreamers of Citta Vecchia, I went out into the garden, and there, on a stone bench, beneath a spreading tree, which stretched like a roof over me, I, with the aid of flint and steel, lighted my cigar, and gazed through its tiny clouds on the curious landscape before me. I could dwell through a whole folio volume on the sort of delicious

ecstasy into which the climate often throws one in those latitudes. One is too happy to think; one remembers or hopes, one indulges longing, and yearns for sympathy. All sorts of bright ideas and agreeable images float through the mind, scarcely leaving behind them a trace of their passage. But there is no strenuous mental exertion, no fierce excitement, no impetuous desire to struggle with mankind or with the elements. Nature rocks, coaxes, and, as it were, pats one on the cheek, and bids one recline in peace on her bosom. In this state of existence one often becomes metaphysical, and speculates on all things possible and impossible. But I feel, as I recall those sunny moments, the languor of the melting South creep over me—it's monotony infuses itself into my language, and the reader and I would soon, I fear, be fast asleep together, were I not to change the topic.

"Upon what in the Citta Vecchia should I dwell? It contains churches, inns, and private houses, with a sprinkling of small formal gardens, like most other cities. But it is not in any of these that you are to seek for its characteristics. It looks like a nest of grasshoppers that have forgotten how to chirp. It almost seems in my memory as if we never heard a sound there, save what we uttered ourselves; as we expressed our astonishment at its silence. Yet I remember there was an old priest, a fat impersonation of ease and indolence, who contrived to gossip a little, in a slumberous way, about the history and antiquities of the place, to which, poor man, he attached some importance. What he said resembled the annals of the Lotophagi. People there will hardly give themselves the trouble to come into the world, or, when they have been admitted involuntarily and by chance, to go out of it. It is a place in which we might doze on for ever—

'The world forgetting, by the world forgot.'

"Yet if there are any pretty women in Malta, it is in Citta Vecchia. Nowhere in the East could you find larger, darker, or more loving eyes. To say they were impassioned would be to give you a wrong idea of them; they are calm, placid, and serene, like an Egyptian night. There is an intense composure in the countenance, as if no emotion had ever stirred it. I should say they have a world of happiness in themselves; and that, mild, gentle, affectionate, with manners as primitive and simple as those of the golden age, they know how to communicate their measured happiness to others. I may be mistaken, as I only saw them like pictures; but this is the impression I carried away with me, and as I never afterwards had an opportunity of correcting it if wrong, it will most likely continue to be my impression for ever."

While undergoing quarantine at Malta, on his return from the East, Mr. St. John became aware of a

DEATH BY PLAGUE IN THE LAZARETTO.

"There came at length an incident to diversify our monotonous existence, and bring us a little to ourselves. Three or four doors from us, a man died suddenly of the plague, and as in that case the body is never kept, it was to be carried in the course of the morning along the terrace in front of our door, then religiously shut, and no one descended to enjoy a walk for several hours after. Who the unfortunate traveller was I never could learn. The guardians could not or would not explain; all they appeared to know was that he had just arrived from the East with the plague about him, and he was confined in an apartment by himself, and that he died; whether with or without medical assistance I know not. . . . People at a distance here in Europe are apt to talk very courageously of the plague, and a traveller who has made some impression on the public, dissertates on the subject with the utmost complacency. As far as my experience goes, it is very different when you are brought face to face with the pestilence, when you fancy it is mingled with every breath of air you breathe; when the dead body, decomposed as if by magic, exhales mephitic particles into the atmosphere, and seems to infect and disorganize it. That would be the time to display indifference or stoical insensibility, but, among our party there was none who showed it. Every man's cheek seemed a shade paler, although my Indian friend was less affected than the rest. Of course Selina thought nothing about it, but said jocularly that the best thing to keep off the plague, was a good puff of Gebelee.—'Do let me light one for you,' said she; 'I can do it.' So off she tripped, brought me the pipe, filled it with tobacco, and then fetching a little bit of charcoal from the furnace, at which the meat was cooking, kindled it in a few minutes, and put the amber into my mouth. 'Now smoke,' said she, 'while I play with your beard;' and throwing herself beside me on the divan, began the threatened operation immediately. From this I was called to see the coffin pass.

"I have never yet been tired of life, or insensible to death. It was, therefore, with deep sorrow that I looked down on the body of that unknown man, whose children, perhaps, like mine, were at that moment playing round their mother, at the distance of some thousands of miles, and asking her when their father would return. . . . When we descended to the terrace in the afternoon, scarcely a syllable was whispered about the dead. He had passed silently and unlamented to his rest, and dread of the disease that struck him down induced the whole Lazaretto to observe the strictest silence on the subject. Every one feared to stir up the depths of his own imagination. It was remembered that when the plague last broke out in Malta, ten thousand persons were swept off in a few weeks."

Mr. St. John is—of course we do not mean it offensively—a good animal; and is great at dinners, cigars, "Gebel Latakia," and other physical enjoyments: but we cannot find room for any of the palate-provoking and ease-inducing passages in which these phases of his life of travel occur. There is, also, plenty of good story-telling in his book, and some episodal personal histories, put into the mouth of fellow-travellers, which are, undoubtedly, pieces of fiction, and show that the author has noble powers as a writer of fiction. Some parts of the volumes cannot fail to remind the reader of Sterne's "Sentimental Journey"; but the sentiment is purer, if the genius be less—and it is scarcely less—than in that work. But

the following is almost too like Sterne to be pleasing:—

GIANETTA.

"I took breakfast in my bedroom, as appears to be the custom in Italy. It was, I suppose, about eight o'clock, when Gianetta came in with the coffee, and all the other requisites. I was sitting at a table reading—what do you imagine? Not the 'Pastor Fido,' or the 'Aminta,' or the 'Orlando Inamorato,' or any other outbreak of human passion. No! I was reading the New Testament; and had just got to those verses where, in the Sermon on the Mount, Christ is pouring forth his blessings on mankind. I can never read or hear that sermon without a thrill of delight, which I would denominate holy, could I venture to apply such an epithet to anything connected with my own feelings. . . . While Gianetta went on laying the breakfast things—which, observing I was in a meditative humour, she did softly and silently—I took up the book again, and went on with the sermon. If there be any one who can read it without being deeply moved, without feeling the delicious tears of gratitude and love beaming in his eyes, I may admire his philosophy, but can never envy his feelings. In those divine words we discover the point of contact between heaven and earth.—'Gianetta,' said I, 'have you ever read the Sermon on the Mount?' 'No,' answered she, 'but I have heard a good friar preach upon it.' 'And what did he say?' inquired I. 'Ah, Signor!' exclaimed she, 'much more than I can remember; but he concluded, I recollect, with these words, "Little children, love one another!"' 'And do you obey the precept, Gianetta?' inquired I. 'Yes,' she answered; 'I love everybody!' 'Then you love me, Gianetta,' I observed. 'Yes,' she replied. 'There,' said I, 'take that book, and, while I am out, read it, it will do you good.'

We can add to these extracts but one specimen of the fine sayings which drop so easily from Mr. St. John, on all sorts of occasions and subjects. He is talking with a lady at a *table d'hôte*:—

"Madame appeared to take infinite interest in my proposed journey, and listened with as much pleasure to my account of what I hoped to see as if I had already seen it and been speaking from experience. Three things especially delighted her—the Temple of Karnak, the Tombs of the Theban Kings, and the boundless expanse of the desert; as I expatiated on which, her eyes would kindle and flash, and she would exclaim, 'Ah, how I should like to be of your party.' 'Madame,' I replied, 'I have no party; I go alone.' 'Oh, mon Dieu!' said she, 'comme ce sera triste.' 'No,' I replied, 'I shall people the desert with my remembrances.'

If there are some few sayings and sentiments in these volumes which seem to us exceptionable, in general they deserve the praise of ministering to the enjoyment of beauty, without even transiently suggesting thoughts, or breathing feeling, that could ever so slightly injure or weaken the mind that entertains them. And certainly, they are thoughtful, brilliant, graceful, and glowingly genial, enough to fascinate the grave, while they give exuberant delight to the gay.

The British Jews. By the Rev. JOHN MILLS. London : Houlston and Stoneman, Paternoster-row.

THE Jews in this country now number 30,000 persons; and they have so risen in social importance and in the general esteem, that they occupy municipal and other offices, and are barred from the legislature itself only by the intolerance and prejudice of ancient lords—and that against the popular will and intelligence. It is yet surprising how little is known of this remarkable body of our fellow-countrymen; and how little interest is excited by the fact that such a large community exists amongst us in isolation and mystery; its members preserving their own national traditions and hopes—while sincerely attached to the country of their birth, and to the institutions that have sheltered them from persecution and granted them freedom—and retaining, in the midst of the civilization of the nineteenth century, the cast of social life, and religious observance which had become venerable, in its thousands of years' existence, before this era of nineteen centuries began. Such a work as now lies before us has remarkable attractions—to the student of history, to the politician, to the Christian, and to every one who dwells by the side of the Jew, or is the witness of any of the aspects of Judaism, as modified by British influences and society. It has also a unique character; for no work has preceded it in which a complete view of the social and religious condition, and the domestic life of the British Jews, has been attempted. Mr. Mills has had every advantage for its preparation, in a long and intimate personal acquaintance with Jews, in the assistance of several competent and authoritative informants, and in the use of materials furnished by members of the community who are free alike from superstition and irreligion, which have so greatly spread among the lower Jews, and adhere intelligently and strictly to the Hebrew law and custom.

Every division of this most acceptable volume contains novel particulars, or corrected informa-

tion, which would supply interesting extracts by columns. We shall gratify our readers by as much quotation as possible.

THE SECTIONS OF JUDAISM.

"In Great Britain, as elsewhere, the Jewish people constitute two distinct communities—those of the Spanish and Portuguese under the general name of *Sephardim*; and those of the German and Polish under the name *Ashkenasim*. The *Sephardim* hold that they are the descendants of the tribe of Judah—the aristocracy of the nation. They look back with delight upon their ancestors—the illustrious Jews of Spain and Portugal; and from our acquaintance with a goodly number of their families, we believe them to inherit, to a very great degree, the noble qualities attributed to their fathers. This community is not numerous, nor does it increase much, owing, perhaps, to its too great exclusiveness. There are but few families out of London; and in the metropolis they have but one synagogue, which is situated in Bevis Marks.—The *Ashkenasim*, on the other hand, are more numerous and enterprising. They are not so confined to London as the *Sephardim*, but scattered throughout the country. Wherever traffic opens a door for gain, there the *Ashkenasim* never hesitates to settle. All the Jews who travel the country with wares are also of this community.—The *Sephardim* and the *Ashkenasim* rarely amalgamate; but now, of late, there is a greater intercourse between them. A goodly number of marriages have taken place; their mutual sympathy is on the increase; and we have no doubt that this coalescing will prove beneficial to both communities."

The domestic institutions of the Jews generally, especially betrothal and marriage, are singular enough to a Gentile; but the law and practice of divorce amongst them is, perhaps, of all others, in strongest contrast to Christian notions and legal requirements in England. The passage in Deut. xxiv 1 is taken as the foundation of proceedings in divorce; and the "uncleanness" there assigned as the legitimate ground of divorce, is, by general agreement, construed as including "everything that may give real offence to the husband." But Mr. Mills adds,—

"The British Jews, as far as we have learned, are not allowed to divorce their wives, unless, from a lack of love and sympathy, they should lead a quarrelsome and miserable life, or that she be proved guilty of adultery."

There is, however, a strange custom of

CONDITIONAL DIVORCEMENT.

"There is another method of divorce, which is called *Get ngal Tenui*, a conditional divorce. This is usually done when a husband goes to any remote part of the world for a length of time exceeding three years. Upon such an occasion the *Get* is drawn up to the following import:—"That unless the husband returns to his wife, or sends for her to reside with him abroad, within the time therein specified, all former agreements, contracts, deeds, and other matrimonial engagements between them, are to be, and to remain cancelled and destroyed, and totally null and void for ever after—and that it shall, is, and may be, from and after the expiration of the time, specified in the bill of divorce aforesaid, lawful for her to dispose of herself in marriage to whom she pleases, the same as if no marriage had ever subsisted or been contracted between her and any other person heretofore. And that the aforesaid conditional bill of divorce shall, at the end of the time therein set down for the husband's return, in case of his not returning, be deemed an absolute bill of divorce, irrevoicable for ever." The *Get* is read by the Rabbi, and signed by the parties, in the presence of a *Minyan*. The ceremony being over, the *Get* is delivered to the custody of the wife. Sometimes Jewish parents marry their children at a very early age, although the marriage cannot be consummated until they reach the years of maturity. Under such circumstances, if a girl under ten years be married to a man whom she loved not, she is entitled to a divorce till she be of age, i.e., twelve years and a day. This she does in the following manner:—She seeks out two witnesses, who are men of good character in the Jewish faith, whom she declares to them that she will not have such an one. This declaration they put down in writing, sign it, and deliver it to her, when she is at liberty to marry whom she pleases. The divorced couple may marry again if they choose. This has occurred in many instances. But if the divorce took place for adultery, they are never allowed to come together a second time—nor is she to marry the person implicated with her in the guilt; but she may marry any one else."

The requirements of the Law as to articles of food, involve some careful and difficult arrangements; as may be seen by the following particulars of

BUTCHERING FOR JEWS.

"Cattle and poultry must be slaughtered by a Jew, and according to prescribed rules; otherwise the meat is as unlawful as that of forbidden beasts. The rules concerning killing are exceedingly numerous and complicated; consequently the *Shochet*, or killer, must be duly qualified for the profession. The *Shochet* slaughters in a manner different from other butchers. The four legs of the beast being fastened, laid on its back, and secured by means of a rope, &c.; the *Shochet* grasps its windpipe with his left hand, in an instant with his sharp knife gives the proper cut, and in a few moments the animal's life is extinct. The knife is made in a peculiar way, and must be kept according to the prescribed rules, otherwise the killing is unlawful. The stroke must also be executed according to prescribed rules, or the killing is unlawful. . . . As soon as the animal has done bleeding it is opened, and the *Shochet* examines the heart and liver, and especially the lungs, to ascertain whether they be sound and healthy; if so, he pronounces the meat to be *Kasher*, i.e., proper for use; but if not, *Trephah*, i.e., improper for use. This being over, another officer, connected with the killing department, commences his duties. This is the *Shomer*, or watcher. He has to seal the meat, which is done as follows:—He has a piece of tin, about 3 inches long and 1 inch wide; with a small hole in each side. He has also a small piece of

lead, about an inch and a half long, having both ends flat and round. He then cuts through a small piece of the meat, affixes the tin thereto, bends the tin, and then puts the lead through both ends; thus secured it hangs down like a padlock. With a kind of vice he then stamps on one end of the lead the initials of *Ashkenasim* and *Sephardim*; and his own name on the other side.

When the carcass is cut up for retalling, the *Shomer* has to seal each separate joint; without which it is unlawful. The killing department in London is superintended by a committee composed of members of both communities—*Sephardim* and *Ashkenasim*; under whom there are five *Shechtim* and five *Shomrim*, who receive certain fixed salaries. These salaries are paid out of a kind of tax which is laid upon the meat in addition to the market price, and the remainder is divided between the four principal Synagogues.

We can find no room for extracts respecting the Religious Condition of the Jews; but would direct especial attention to the chapters on Feasts and Fasts—the Reformed British Jews—and, Judaism and Christianity. The last section of the work also, on the Social Condition, Charities, Educational Institutions, and Traits of Character, of the British Jews, is highly deserving of attention. We thank Mr. Mills for his able compilation, and emphatically commend it to our readers.

Facts and Facetiae.

The British cotton goods exported last year were worth £29,878,087.

According to the *Times*, public-houses are the true gold mines at Melbourne.

A very fine male Hippopotamus has arrived in France from Alexandria.

The new church at Limehouse-fields has two-thirds of its sittings free.

The latest report of Paris fashions says—"Bonnets are very small, and are more worn about the neck than on the head."

The Archbishop of Paris and the Abbé Deguerry have been created by the Emperor "Officers of the Legion of Honour!"

A beautiful specimen of American aloe is now bursting into bloom at the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe's Italian garden, near Plymouth. It is expected to be thirty feet high when it has attained its full growth.

During the last session, the London and North-Western and the Great Western Companies have spent in all £30,000 in Parliamentary expenses, and apparently with no definite result!

The mail which arrived from Australia by the "Harbinger" consisted of nearly 450,000 letters—making a Post-office revenue of nearly £30,000.

The King of Bavaria, during his recent visit to Rome, received from the Pope a rare relic, declared to be a small piece of the robe of the Virgin Mary, set in a valuable gold frame!

The floods in Oxfordshire seem to have been not without some advantage: the farmers are now cutting a most luxuriant second crop of grass.

The little cutter "Corsair," only 83 tons, commanded by Mr. Kreeft, performed her voyage of 18,000 miles to Melbourne in safety, having arrived at her port on the 6th June.

In a bill introduced by Lord Palmerston, to authorize the enclosure of certain lands, in pursuance of the report of the enclosure commissioners, Chobham, together with Farnham, is among the doomed.

The favourite colours of Mexican and American ladies are indicated in the trade orders. In printed linen lawns the colours are "bright and showy for Mexico, and for America, blue, chocolate, purple, and pink."

A new sort of carriage has been constructed for the Orleans Railroad. It is a complete house, consisting of a drawing-room, bedroom, kitchen, and wine-cellars, with icing apparatus for fifty bottles of wine—in fact, apartments furnished elegantly and comfortably. It was built under the immediate direction of the Comte de L., who can now travel "at home" from one end of Europe to the other.

Truman, Hanbury, Buxton, & Co., the great Spitalfields brewers, inform the *Times* that by Jukes's apparatus they "consume their own smoke;" and as it enables them to use small coals, it has saved them nearly £2,000 per annum in the cost of fuel. The weavers round about are all thankful, "as they can now make their delicate-coloured silks without fear of tarnish."

Telegraphic communication will be continuous by the 1st of October between London and Cork, Dublin, Belfast, and Killarney, the land lines being completed in Ireland, and the submarine link between Portpatrick and Donaghadee being at work.

An advocate before the Southport bench of magistrates, the other day, said he had two witnesses in court in support of the cause of his client, and they would be sure to speak the truth, *for he had had no opportunity of communicating with them!*

A letter in the *Times* gives the following illustration of the state of Melbourne:—"The fact is, so completely are the relations of society reversed here, that the garb of a gentleman (or "swell" in the colonial vernacular) is in itself a protection, being the badge of poverty; he is not worth robbing; he either has no money, or, being sober and discreet, leaves what he may have at home. But the drunken digger, just down from the mines with his gold-dust in his belt, reeling from pothouse to pothouse, is a rich and easy prey. He is marked out, followed, and robbed in a systematic manner. Many a better "pocket" of gold is picked out of a kennel in the city than could be got by weeks of delving at Ballarat. Except to this class, I should say the place is safe enough, and quieter than could be expected."

The writer of "Hints for Health" has the following on the advantages of vegetable diet:—"An animal diet, especially in temperate climates, is more wasting than a vegetable, because it excites, by its stimulating qualities, a fever after every meal, by which the springs of life are urged into constant and weakening exertions; on the contrary, a vegetable diet tends to preserve a delicacy of feeling, a liveliness of imagination, and an acuteness of judgment, seldom enjoyed by those who live principally on meat."

The following anecdote is told of the late Rev. John Skinner, of Linshart, Longside, and author of the celebrated song to the tune of *Tuiochgorum*. The rev. gentleman, while passing along a street in the village of Longside, was met by an old woman who was in the habit of begging through that quarter of the country. As was her practice, she made great solicitation for a half-penny. On feeling his pocket, Mr. Skinner discovered that he had not a half-penny, but was possessed of a penny piece, which he handed to the woman. The sum being double what she expected, so excited her gratitude, that she exclaimed, "Lord bless you, sir, and may a' that's gude attend your bonny family; and for yourself, God sen' that ye may win to the kingdom o' heaven this very night!" "Mony thanks to you, Janet, for your good wishes," said Mr. Skinner, "but ye need na have been so very particular about the time!"

The subjoined statement as to the dimension of public buildings may help to give exactness to the conjectures of many of our readers:

	Ft. long.	Ft. wide.	Ft. high.
Westminster Hall	228	66	92
Leeds proposed New Town Hall	190	72	72
Liverpool St. George's Hall	165	74	75
Birmingham Town Hall	145	65	65
Durham Castle	180	50	36
Liverpool Concert Hall	135	102	68
London, Guildhall	153	50	55
London, Exeter Hall	130	72	—
London, Euston-sq. Station Hall	125	61	60

It is remarked in an article on "Shakespeare," in the *Prospective Review*, that the reason why so few good books are written is, that so few people that can write know anything. In general an author has always lived in a room, has read books, has cultivated science, is acquainted with the style and sentiments of the best authors, but he is out of the way of employing his own eyes and ears. "The mental habits of Robert Southey, which, about a year ago, were so extensively praised in the public journals, is the type of literary existence, just as the praise bestowed on it shows the admiration excited by it among literary people. He wrote poetry (as if anybody could) before breakfast; he read during breakfast. He wrote history until dinner; he corrected proof sheets between dinner and tea; he wrote an essay for the *Quarterly* afterwards; and after supper, by way of relaxation, composed the 'Doctor,' a lengthy and elaborate jest."

Miscellaneous News.

RAILWAY DIVIDENDS.—The dividend of the Great Western Railway Company for the past half-year will be at the rate of four per cent. per annum, with a balance of less than £20,000 to be carried to the credit of the current six months' income. The report of the Eastern Counties Railway directors, to be presented to the meeting on the 25th inst., congratulates the proprietors on steadily-increasing prosperity, and proposes a dividend of 5s. per share. The London and Blackwall Railway Company will pay a dividend of 2s. 6d. per share, clear of income-tax. At the half-yearly meeting of the Stockton and Darlington Railway Company, a dividend at the rate of five per cent. per annum was declared. The Wear Valley Railway Company for the past year is at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum. The Great Northern dividend for the half year is at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum.

NEW TOWN HALL, LEEDS.—The foundation-stone of a new Town Hall in this borough was laid on Wednesday. The ceremony was attended by the mayor (Mr. John Hope Shaw), the magistrates, the vicar (the Rev. Dr. Hook), the representatives of the borough, the overseers, and the members of various local societies. The procession was numerous, and the proceedings went off with much *éclat*. Appropriate addresses were delivered by the Mayor, Mr. E. Baines, and other gentlemen. The ceremony was succeeded by a luncheon at the Music Hall. The architect is Mr. Broderick, late of Hull. The principal room will be more spacious than St. George's Hall, Liverpool, or the Birmingham Town Hall. The building will be spacious enough to accommodate 8,000 persons. The contract for it has been taken by Mr. Atack, of Leeds, at £41,835.

LIFE AND DEATH OF A MATHEMATICAL GENIUS.—There died lately in Shoreditch workhouse, one Benjamin Reader, of Helhoughton, Norfolk, of whom the *Bury Post* gives some remarkable particulars. He was a native of Helhoughton, and known there as "Soldier Ben." He served upwards of sixteen years as a private in the 2nd Dragoon Guards. Although of an obtuse and somewhat forbidding appearance, he possessed an uncommon facility for mathematical attainments. He had Euclid at his fingers' ends, while his knowledge of Algebra and Logarithms enabled him to solve, in a few minutes, the most difficult questions. He could appreciate the science of Geometry as a mathematician only can do; and his daily employment became blended with and coloured by his ruling passion. While his regiment was lying at Manchester, he one day observed on a card in a window, "Mathematics taught." He went in, and expressed a wish to become a pupil. The master, surprised that a common soldier should make such an application, told him the terms were above his means; while a room full of young gentlemen regarded him with scornful merriment. He, however, made arrangements for an hour's instruction every day, and paid down ten shillings in advance. He then received his lesson, which he worked out at the barracks on the bottom of a stable pail! and, in a short time, made

such rapid progress as not only to outstrip the whole of the students who had laughed at him, but even the preceptor himself, who frankly admitted that he could teach him nothing more. After his discharge from the regiment he once or twice had the management of a school; but his irregularities soon reduced him to the level of a common labourer, and eventually to death in a union-house.

AN EAST-ANGLIAN AMONG THE MORMONITES.—We observe in the *Norfolk News* a letter from one Thomas Hardiman, late of Buckenham, to his relatives there, detailing the writer's experiences of Mormon life. The production of an illiterate, but apparently shrewd, man, it is a useful warning to his fellow-countrymen of his own class. He, with a wife and young family, seems to have been half-starved on the passage; and turned-off ashore, when his means were exhausted. He describes irreligion and licentiousness as woefully prevalent; and is especially aggrieved at the sudden prosperity of one S—, apparently the leader of the Norfolk detachment. "All things are open to our eyes now. Brigham Young have no authority in this place; he is no more than I am, call'd and ordained by God. He took (took it) because he was the Biggest man. I believe it was woe to the true church, but it split up and Postide (apostatized)." Happily, he managed to get a small farm in a neighbouring county; where, revelling in prosperity, and surrounded with old neighbours, he can "hardly know but what he is in Buckenham." One of these neighbours relates a similar experience; and concludes—"If any of you wish to come here, you can have plenty of work; but do not come with the Mormons; if you do, you will rue the day you started out with them. This is the truth; believe me if you please; but if you do not, I cannot help it."

A RAILWAY UNDER LONDON.—The sanction of Parliament has been given to the scheme for a railway under ground from the lower end of the Edgware-road to the King's-cross. The line will, for the most part, run beneath the New-road. The length of this underground railway will be less than two miles and a half. There will be stations at very short distances—say, at every quarter of a mile; and it is intended that the charges shall be so moderate, that the omnibuses will not have a chance. The charge for the whole distance in the first-class will be only 2d. Every carriage will be abundantly lighted. It is expected that the line will be in full operation in little more than twelve months.

A HOMEOPATHIC CONGRESS has recently been held at Manchester, and its sittings occupied two days. Dr. Drysdale, of Liverpool, presided, and amongst the gentlemen present were Mr. Holland, Rochdale; Dr. McLeod, Ben Rhydding; Mr. Frith, London; Mr. Smith, Sheffield; Dr. Walter Johnson; Dr. Epps, London; Dr. Laurie, Edinburgh; Mr. Clifton and Mr. Pearce, Northampton; Dr. Ramsbottom, Huddersfield; and Dr. Russell, Leamington. Dr. Sharpe read a paper on the principles and practice of homeopathy, which was followed by a discussion. At the last congress a committee was appointed to learn the opinions of the profession as to the formation of a medical council for the purpose of enrolling legally qualified homeopathic practitioners. Dr. Fearon, of Birmingham, one of that committee, now reported that they had sent circulars to all gentlemen whose names were in the homeopathic directory; and that they had received answers from seventy-eight practitioners, of whom nine disapproved of the council entirely, eleven approved conditionally, and fifty-eight approved absolutely. After a short discussion, Dr. Dunn moved:

That this meeting, having taken into consideration the report of the committee appointed at the last congress on the subject of a council, resolves, that as there is not at present sufficient uniformity of opinion among the homeopathic body, the subject be indefinitely postponed.

This resolution was seconded by Dr. Black, and was carried unanimously. It was agreed that the next Congress should be held at Leamington, on the Wednesday and Thursday in the first week of August, 1854; Dr. Drysdale to act as president in the interim. On the second day Dr. Russell read a paper on the effects of the naja tripudians—the poison of the cobra di capello. Dr. Epps made some remarks on the progress—or rather, the comparative want of progress—of homeopathy in Manchester. He also drew attention to movements on the part of the London College of Physicians, for the obtaining of a charter or an act of Parliament, and the establishment of a censorship, which would have the effect, if carried out, of altogether excluding homeopathic practitioners. He recommended that gentlemen present should use all their influence in their own localities to defeat this movement. On the following evening a large and respectable assembly met at the Athenaeum, to hear an address from Dr. Epps. In the course of the proceedings an address was presented to Dr. Epps, congratulating him upon the result of his efforts to introduce homeopathy into Manchester, and upon his courageous exertions in promoting that principle of medicine, now raised to the dignity of a science.

THE STRIKES.—On Monday the bricklayers, who have been out on strike three weeks, returned to work at the New Palace at Westminster, the King's-cross, and London-bridge railway stations, their demand of an advance of 6d. per day wages having been guaranteed them. The plasterers and others at work at the Wellington Barracks, St. James's Park, on Monday, struck for an advance of 6d. per day. The workmen at Swansea Docks are out on strike. The Kidderminster strike is ended, nearly all the weavers having agreed to resume work, and to give up the demand for an increase of wages, to work twelve hours a-day, and to be paid when the work is finished. Orders have been given in consequence of the late strike, by different manufacturers, for the erection of at least 100 power-looms. There was a great public meeting at Merthyr on Thursday, for the purpose of taking

to consider the causes of the present strike in the neighbourhood, and to "discuss its effects upon the trade and commerce of the district." Mr. Thomas Stephens presided. A memorial to the ironmasters was read, begging them not to withhold the last advance of ten per cent. as the iron market is rising. The meeting was adjourned to Tuesday to await the reply of the masters. The whole question seems to turn upon the price of the rails. Mr. R. Crawshay, son of the great ironmaster, in an address to the men, denies having told any of his workmen that his father was being offered a contract of £1 a ton above the market price. His remark he says was that he had heard the price of rails was £9 a ton, but he did not believe it. As evidence of his good faith, Mr. Crawshay has written to Mr. Thomas Stephens, the chairman of the meeting, and offered to supply him, or any customer he may bring, with 10,000 tons of rails, to be delivered between now and the 31st of March next, at the rate of £8 10s. per ton, Mr. Stephens to be allowed the usual commission. If Mr. Crawshay be right in his figures—and it would be difficult to give a better proof of his sincerity—the movement among the workmen in South Wales is founded upon error.

BIRTHS.

August 13, at Codham Hall, near Braintree, Essex, the wife of the Rev. B. BACKHOUSE, Scarborough, of a son.

August 13, the wife of Mr. S. HALL, Eastbourne, of a son.

August 13, at Saffron Walden, Essex, the wife of the Rev. W. A. GILLISON, of a daughter.

August 20, at Mawbey-road, Old Kent-road, Mrs. CHARLES JONES, of a daughter.

August 22, at Peakhill-lodge, Sydenham, the wife of ROBERT VON GLEHN, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

August 13, at the Independent Chapel, Southampton, by the Rev. J. Wyld. Mr. GEORGE MARSH TEPPER, eldest son of Mr. R. Tepper, and South Molton, to ANN, widow of the late Mr. J. IVIMY, Southampton.

August 14, at Zion Independent Chapel, Highworth, by Rev. T. Gilbert. Mr. JOHN BENNETT, of Stratton, St. Margaret, to ANN, eldest daughter of Mr. G. CLARK, of Highworth.

August 16, at the Independent Chapel, Newark, by the Rev. John Hallett, the Rev. T. ELLIS, of Pontefract, Yorkshire, to Miss EMMA LOVERSIDGE, of the former place.

August 17, at Mansion-house Chapel, by the Rev. John Burnet, George CHEETHAM CHURCHILL, Esq., of Manchester, to ANNA MAITLAND, eldest daughter of the Rev. G. LAURIE, of Camberwell.

August 17, at the Congregational Chapel, Stourbridge, by the pastor, Mr. ELIJAH STANLEY, saddler, of Walsall, to SARAH ANN ALLPORT, of Lye, late infant-school teacher at the Congregational Chapel, Walsall.

August 17, at West-street Chapel, Rochdale, by the Rev. W. F. Burchell. ROBERT SLACK, Esq., M.D., of Crosby House, Carlisle, to ANNE AINSWORTH, daughter of HENRY KELSELL, Esq., of Rochdale.

August 17, at the Congregational Church, Holloway, HENRY GEORGE GOLDFINCH, Esq., of Valparaiso, to E. IZIA, daughter of W. GRIGGS, Esq., of Tollington Park, Middlesex.

August 18, by the Rev. Samuel Martin, of Westminster, HENRY DUNNING MACLEOD, Esq., of the Inner Temple, second son of the late Roderick Macleod, Esq., Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Cromarty, N.B., to ELIZABETH MACKENZIE, eldest daughter of HUGH INNES CAMERON, Esq., of Hyde Park-gate, Kensington-grove.

DEATHS.

March 12, at Melbourne, Victoria, in consequence of the over-crowding and upsetting of a ferryboat on the river Yarra Yarra, GEORGE HENRY, aged 23, and JOHN WINSLOW, aged 22, sons of Mr. H. BIGGS, of the Lewisham-road, Deptford.

April 28, at Prahran, near Melbourne, Australia, aged 57, SARAH, the beloved wife of the Rev. W. J. HOPE, late Classical and Head Master of the Congregational School, Lewisham, near London, after a lingering and painful illness of four months' duration.

August 3, at her residence, Tattonhall, Cheshire, aged 66, Mrs. JACKSON, relict of the late Mr. William Jackson.

August 11, JOSEPH ASHBY GILLET, of Banbury, banker, in his 59th year a member of the Society of Friends.

August 12, at the house of the Rev. Dr. Hutton, Burton-road, Derby, aged 23, MARY EMILY, eldest daughter of CALES E. LANGDON, Esq., and granddaughter of the late Rev. Thomas Langdon, of Leeds.

August 16, at Edgbaston, Birmingham, in the 90th year of his age, Mr. OWEN JOHNSON. For nearly 72 years he was an esteemed member of the Baptist Church, Cannon-street, Birmingham, and for upwards of 37 years one of the deacons of that church.

August 16, at Tunbridge Wells, in his 62nd year, HENRY MILNES THORNTON, second son of the late Samuel Thornton, Esq., formerly M.P. for Surrey.

August 17, at Camberwell, the Rev. W. WEARE, late of Gothic Hall, Enfield, Middlesex, in the 79th year of his age.

August 18, at Plymouth, aged 63, after seven years' severe affliction, the Rev. S. PENNHAL, formerly the respected pastor of the Independent Church at Codsford, Wilts.

August 18, at No. 4, Assembly-row, Mile-end, Mr. JOSEPH LOADES, aged 49, late of 23, Pavement, Finsbury.

August 19, at Leamington Spa, the Right Hon. Sir GEORGE COCKBURN, Bart., of Langton, G.C.B., Admiral of the Fleet, Major-General of Marines, and Rear-Admiral of the United Kingdom, in his 82nd year.

August 20, at Plymouth, in her 77th year, Mrs. TUCKER, mother of the Rev. F. Tucker, Manchester.

August 21, Mr. WILLIAM BEAT, of Royal-road, Walworth, formerly of Thrapston, Northamptonshire, aged 65 years.

August 22, at the Independent Chapel, Brill, by the Rev. J. HOWELL, Mr. GEORGE VERNEY, of Aylesbury, to Miss HANNAH TIMS, of Brill.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, TUESDAY EVENING.

The firmness which has characterised the Stock Market during the last few days is somewhat giving way—the unsettled aspect of the Turkish affair, the diminution of the stock of bullion at the Bank, the enhanced value of money, and the unsettled harvest weather, create uneasiness. To-day the market opened heavy, and during the day Consols declined $\frac{1}{2}$ in price. The Money Market is easy; but the rate for first-class paper is still 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent.

The imports of the precious metals for the past week have been heavy, and are estimated at about £800,000. The exports, on the other hand, amount to little more than £238,000. The "Tamar," from Sydney, brought 11,000 ounces of gold, valued at £44,000, and the "Harbinger," from Australia, via the Cape of Good Hope, 130,000 ounces, equal to about £520,000. The supply of gold in London is now considerable, and it is expected that the

greater portion, instead of being sent to the continent, as heretofore, will find its way to the Bank of England.

In foreign Stocks Mexican opened rather weaker, but Portuguese and Spanish Bonds were both higher. The Portuguese financial agent in London announces that the amount of Stock received for conversion from the 2nd to the 16th inst., was £404,902 16s., making the total amount sent in £3,508,764, against which bonds and certificates to the amount of £2,764,542 8s. have been issued. The bargains have comprised—Brazilian 4% per Centa. at 100. Granada Deferred, 10%. Peruvian Bonds, for the 31st inst., 80%. Russian Stock, 117%, and 102%; Sarдинian, 96%. Spanish Deferred, 23%; ditto Certificates, 6% per cent. Dutch 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Centa. 64%.

In the Share Market Caledonians have been actively dealt in at 67 67 $\frac{1}{2}$; Eastern Counties have continued steady at 13 13 $\frac{1}{2}$; North Westerns have ranged between 117 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 112 $\frac{1}{2}$; South Westerns have been well supported at 86 $\frac{1}{2}$ 87 ex div. Midlands, 72 $\frac{1}{2}$. North British steady, at 82 $\frac{1}{2}$. South Eastern, 71 $\frac{1}{2}$; South Wales, 27. York and North Midlands have improved to 59%. French Shares were rather higher. Northern of France, 5s. Australian Mining Shares were firmer. Australian Bank Shares were a weak sale, being pressed, and miscellaneous Shares were lower.

A letter from New York says, "Our financial world looks gloomy; the stringency in the Money Market is very severe. Our importations are unprecedentedly large. American securities are dull in London; and, as we have nothing else to pay with now, your merchants must stop their exportations, or take these securities. We have not seen the worst of this crisis. Yesterday stocks went down alarmingly, and respectable houses were paying 4 per cent. a month for large sums. The next steamer is likely to carry no very cheering news to Europe from our financial world."

The reports from the manufacturing towns for the past week present little for remark. At Manchester prices have been steady, although the amount of production is supposed to have been slightly in excess of the demand, the pressure for money having in some degree checked the activity of buyers. From Birmingham it is stated that the consumption of manufactured iron is still increasing, but that there is a desire on the part of manufacturers to avoid any premature advance on prices. Copper also continues firm, and every branch of industry is well supported. Notwithstanding the extent of previous shipments, the business for Australia has rather increased than otherwise since the last intelligence, many merchants from the colony being now personally in the market. At Nottingham the present is the dullest season of the year, but stocks are extremely light, and manufacturers are gladly availing themselves of the opportunity to increase their supplies. The representations of some of the operatives for an advance in wages have been met by a concession equal to 75 per cent. of the increase asked. In the woollen districts the transactions have been large and satisfactory, the favourable appearance of the crops having been an additional cause of confidence. From the Irish linen markets the account is that they never were in a state of greater activity, and that goods of all descriptions are extremely scarce.

PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS:

	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday	Satur.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per Ct. Cons.	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cons. for Acct.	98 $\frac{1}{2}$	97 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 per Cent. Red.	98 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$	99 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$	99 $\frac{1}{2}$
New 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Ct.						
Annuities	100 $\frac{1}{2}$	101 $\frac{1}{2}$				
India Stock	259 $\frac{1}{2}$	259 $\frac{1}{2}$	257	257	257	257
Bank Stock	224 $\frac{1}{2}$	224 $\frac{1}{2}$	224 $\frac{1}{2}$	227 $\frac{1}{2}$	228 $\frac{1}{2}$	228 $\frac{1}{2}$
Exch. Bills	2 dis.	3 dis.	2 dis.	2 pm.	2 pm.	2 pm.
India Bonds	12 pm.	—	18 pm.	17 pm.	17 pm.	2 pm.
Long Annuity	6	6	15-16	—	—	6

The Gazette.

Friday, August 19, 1853.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An account pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday, the 12th day of August, 1853.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued 30,963,240 Government Debt .. 11,015,100

Other Securities... 2,894,900

Gold Coin & Bullion 16,944,065

Silver Bullion..... 19,154

£30,963,240 £30,963,240

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital. 14,553,000 Government Securities

Rest 3,844,296 Dead Weight Annuity

Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings' Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Div. Accounts) .. 3,315,392

Other Deposits 12,190,020

Seven-day and other Bills

£34,848,862 £34,848,862

Dated the 18th day of August, 1853.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnizing marriages, pursuant to an Act of the 6th and 7th William IV., c. 85.—

Baptist Chapel, St. Mary, Newington.

Baptist Chapel, Bilsworth, Northamptonshire.

BANKRUPTCY.

BALLS, ROBERT, Mortlake, Surrey, builder, August 31, September 28; solicitors, Messrs. Ashurst and Son, Old Jewry.

BRADBURY, JOHN, Worcester, dealer in copper ores, August 30, September 29; solicitor, Mr. Smith, Birmingham.

DR. WILLIAM HENRY, Cambridge, plumber, September 5 and 27; solicitors, Messrs. Cole, Adelphi-terrace.

HARROD, WILLIAM, Birmingham, brass founder, September 3 and 24; solicitor, Mr. Southall, Birmingham.

HOLLITT, JAMES, Jun., Manchester, packer, August 30, September 26; solicitor, Mr. Thomas, Manchester.

HORNBY, JOHN, Church, Lancashire, iron founder, August 30, September 27; solicitor, Mr. Richardson, Bolton.

ACROSS ACQUISITIONS.

CAMERON, DONALD, Perth, wine merchant, August 31 and November 5.

Tuesday, August 23.

BANKRUPTCY.

TAYLOR, HENRY PARSON, Queen's-road, Dalston, licensed victualler, September 6 and 28; solicitor, Mr. Piddell, Cheapside.

STEVENSON, THOMAS, Nottingham, printer, September 9 and 21; solicitor, Mr. Parsons, Nottingham.

MORRIS, ELIZABETH, Gloucester, September 5, October 3; solicitor, Mrs. Smalridge, Gloucester.

DIVIDENDS.

Thomas Hall, Kingston-upon-Hull, innkeeper, first and final div. of 6s. 10d., October 4, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Carrick's Hall—Henry William Hayes, Teignmouth, Devonshire, further div. of 2s., any Tuesday or Friday, at Mr. Hirtzall's, Exeter.

Markets.

MARK-LANE, MONDAY, August 22.

The quantity of English Wheat offering at this morning's market was small, and sold fully 2s. to 3s. per qr. dearer than on Monday last; for Foreign there was more inquiry, and few or no sellers unless at a similar advance. Floating cargoes are held higher, and very little offering. Flour reader sale, and 1s. to 2s. per barrel, and 2s. per sack higher than on Monday last, there having been large sales made during the past week of both Flour and Wheat for shipment to France. Grinding Barley scarce, and held at higher rates. Beans and Peas unaltered. The late supply of Foreign Oats has been pretty well cleared off, and good Corn sold more readily at fully the advance of Friday, or 6d. per qr. higher than this day week. Linseed Cakes firm.

HOPS, Boxocash, Monday, August 22.—The little business passing in our market is at

FOREIGNS SEEDS, &c.				
Linseed (per qr.)	Baltic, 43s. to 46s.; Odessa, 45s. to 49s.			
Linseed Cake (per ton)	£3 to £10.			
Rape Cake (per ton)	£4 10s. to £5 0s.			
Hempseed, small (per qr.)	33s. to 35s.; Do. Dutch, 37s. to 38s.			
Tares (per qr.)	old, small, 30s. to 35s.; large, 36s. to 42s.			
Rye Grass (per qr.)	2s.			
Coriander (per cwt.)	10s. to 12s.			
Clover, red (duty, 6s. per cwt.)	(nominal) 00s. to 00s.			

TALLOW, MONDAY, August 22.—Since Monday last a fair average business has been doing in our market, and prices have ruled about stationary. To-day, P.Y.C. on the spot has sold at 5s. per cwt. For forward delivery very little is doing. Town Tallow is 50s. net cash. Rough Fat 2s. 10d. per siba.

PARTICULARS OF TALLOW.

	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.
Stock this day...	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.
	25533	24288	33006	41158	17025
Price of Y. C. .	{ 9s. 0d.	36s. 6d.	38s. 0d.	39s. 3d.	51s. 0d.
	to	to	to	to	to
	-s. 0d.	37s. 0d.	38s. 3d.	39s. 6d.	-s. 0d.
Delivery last week	1301	1788	1519	1794	1911
Do. from 1st June	14164	14919	15863	13096	17472
Arrived last week	1614	374	2477	2674	716
Do. from 1st June	14276	13583	12336	13626	11182
Price of Town...	40s. 0d.	38s. 0d.	39s. 6d.	40s. 3d.	52s. 9d.

OILS, MONDAY, August 22.—Fish Oils are in moderate request at last week's prices. Olive Oil is offering on easier terms. Cocoonut and Palm move off freely at late rates. Linseed steady. Rape firm, at 40s. for Foreign refined, and 38s. 6d. for brown. Turpentine is considerably dearer.

COAL MARKET, MONDAY, August 22.—A general advance on all coals: a very limited supply, and not equal to the demand. Bradymill's, 21s.; Kelloe, 21s.; New Tanfield, 17s.; Hartley's, 20s.; Holywell, 20s.—Fresh arrivals, 11; left from last day, 1; Total, 12.

HIDES AND SKINS, SATURDAY, August 20.—A steady business has been doing in our market this week, and prices have had an upward tendency. The supplies of Hides and Skins have been good.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Market Hides, 56 to 64 lbs.	0	0	0	3 per lb
Ditto	64	72	0	3 1/2 "
Ditto	72	80	0	3 1/2 "
Ditto	80	88	0	3 1/2 "
Ditto	88	96	0	4 1/2 "
Horse Hides	0	0	6	6 each
Calf Skins, light	1	0	3	0 "
Ditto full	6	0	0	0 "
Shearlings	2	6	3	0 "
Lambs	2	6	4	0 "

CHICORY, LONDON, Saturday, August 20.

During the whole of the week an unusually heavy demand has been experienced for both Home and Foreign-grown Chicory, the prices of which have further receded 10s. to 20s. per ton. An import of 64 bags has taken place from Guernsey.

Per ton.

Foreign root (d.p.)	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Harlington	24 10	25 10
English root (free)		Roasted & ground
Gurnsey	9 0	9 10
York	9 0	9 10

Duty on all Coffee and roasted Chicory imported, 3d. per lb.; on Chicory Root £21 per ton.

WOOL MARKET, LONDON, August 22.

Since our last report there has been an improved demand for most kinds of English Wool, and several parcels have sold for shipment to the continent at an advance of 4d. per lb. The stock in London is extremely small, and holders are very firm at the improvement.

Current prices:—

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
South Down Hoggets	1	4	to	1 1/2
Half-bred ditto	1	4	..	1 1/2
Ewes, clothing	1	2	..	1 1/2
Kent flocks	1	1 1/2	..	1 1/2
Combing skins	1	1	..	1 1/2
Flannel wool	1	0	..	1 1/2
Blanket wool	0	8	..	1 1/2
Leicester flocks	1	2 1/2	..	1 1/2

LEEDS, August 19.—There has been a moderate amount of sales this week, and last week's prices are firmly maintained; but are, nevertheless, below the proportion of prices obtained by the farmers in the country.

COTTON.

LIVERPOOL, AUG. 23.—The market closed heavily, and compared with the rates current on Friday, prices of all descriptions were without material change. The sales have been estimated at 4,000 bales, comprising 3,000 Americans (800 for export, and 200 on speculation); 140 Pernam and Maranham, 7d. to 8d.; 400 Egyptian, 6d. to 12d.; 200 Surat, 4d. to 5d.; and 60 Sea Islands, 2d. to 2s. 7d. per lb. Import since Thursday, 50,000 bales.

MANCHESTER, AUG. 23.—The market is very quiet, and scarcely any business has been transacted. There has been a steady demand for the home trade, at former rates, but the export trade has been very dull, both for goods and yarns, and the tendency of prices is in favour of the buyer. Low numbers of yarns, both for export and home consumption, are obtainable on rather easier terms. Thirty-two's caps, from which shirtings for India are manufactured, are rather lower in value; spinners, however, are not pressing for orders. Goods for India, and mule yarns also for that quarter, are offering pretty freely. The amount of stocks on hand, however, is not so great as it usually is after such a lull in business as there has been for the past fortnight.

PRODUCE MARKET, TUESDAY, August 23.

SPICES.—The market has opened with a firm appearance, and the full prices of Friday last have been supported. 540 hds. of West India soda, including the public sales; Barbadoes, at 34s. to 38s. 6d.; Jamaica, 33s. to 38s. 6d. 8,000 bags Mauritius were offered in public sale, about one-fourth bought in, the remainder sold at full prices; brown, 27s. to 33s.; yellow, 33s. 6d. to 38s. 3,800 bags of Bengal offered, about one-third bought in, the remainder sold steadily. Benares, 36s. to 37s.; Mauritius sort, 36s. to 3s. 2d.; Dihobah, 40s. 6d. to 42s. 1,700 bags Penang were also offered and all sold, 6s. 6d. to 37s. The refined market quiet at last week's prices; brown lumps, 46s.; grocery lumps, 46s. 6d. to 48s. 6d.

COFFEE.—200 casks of plantation Ceylon were offered and sold freely at full to a shade higher prices, 51s. 6d. to 6s. 1,500 bags native were also offered and bought in at 4s. 2d. 1,800 bags Brazil were offered and all bought in at 42s. to 54s. 6d.

TEA.—There has been more disposition shown to buy to-day, and the market is firm. Imported into London from the 1st of January to the 16th of August, 1853, 36,659,000 lbs.; same time in 1852, 34,754,000 lbs.; delivered in 1853, 31,243,000 lbs.; same time in 1852, 59,537,000 lbs.; stock in the United Kingdom, April 16th, 1853, 59,412,000 lbs.; same time in 1853, 55,300,000 lbs.

RICE.—A large business has again been done by private contract, at a shade higher prices. 1,400 bags Bengal were brought forward in public sale, and sold at 12s. 6d.; a few lots at 14s., which was 6d. advance on Saturday's prices.

SALTPEPPER.—500 bags were offered, refection 1 to 2s. 6d. and bought in at 28s. 6d. to 29s.

COTTON.—300 bales sold.

SPICES.—Nutmegs sold in public sale at 2s. 6d. to 3s. 9d., and Mace at 10d. to 2s. 11d., which were full prices.

TIN.—350 slabs of Straits were offered and bought in at 118s. to 120s.

TALLOW.—Firm at yesterday's prices. Markets generally have worn a firm appearance.

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FROM THE 1st TO THE 4th AUGUST.

(From the Register kept by the National Parliamentary and Financial Reform Association, Lancaster House, 2, Duke-street, Adelphi, London.)

Date, Aug.	No. of Division Paper, Aug.	Explanation.—For, f; against, o; absent, ..															
		234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	Absent.	Present.
1	233	Landlord and Tenant (Ireland) Bill—Claims to be registered within twelve months.															
1	234	Prohibiting H.M. officers from encouraging desertion in merchant service—and making sailors deserting and entering H.M. service liable to penalties.															
1	235	Compelling merchant vessels to carry apprentices.															
1	236	Opening the coasting trade with certain restrictions.															
1	237	Deferring consideration of Pilotage Bill.															
1	238	Taking the radius for Hackney Carriage distances from different centres.															
2	239	Reserving certain rights to the Church of England with regard to charities															
2	240	For going into committee on India Bill, in preference to going to Judicature Committee of Privy Council.															
3	241	Going into Committee, Expenses of Elections Bill.															
3	242	— Postponing consideration of Bill.															
3	243	— Candidates employing music, &c. to be disqualified.															
3	244	Deferring Expenses of Elections Bill.															
4	245	Proceeding with Bedford Charity Estate Bill.															
4	246	Preventing for two years the application of Charitable Trusts Bill to Charities purely Roman Catholic.															
4	247	Granting £2,175 for rewards in suppression of the Slave Trade.															

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